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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1992

40p

Clowes convicted of 'milking millions' from financial empire

Tycoon found guilty of fraud

By Bill Frost

PETER Clowes, founder of the collapsed Barlow Clowes financial empire, was yesterday found guilty of fraud by a Central Criminal Court jury. He was sentenced to 112 months in prison and a fine of £113 million.

Clowes, aged 49, from Wilmslow, Cheshire, was acquitted on one charge of conspiracy. Peter Naylor, his second-in-command, was found guilty on one count of theft involving £19,000 of investors' money. Naylor, aged 36, of Send, Surrey, was cleared of one charge of conspiracy and three of theft. He will also be sentenced today.

Guy von Cramer, aged 30, former head of the Barlow Clowes parent company, was cleared on one count of conspiracy and six of theft. He had pleaded not guilty to the charges. After the verdict, Mr von Cramer said: "He [Clowes] gave the impression of extreme wealth and a man of integrity. Clearly that has proved wrong now."

Christopher Newman, aged 37, group finance director, was cleared on seven charges of theft involving almost £11 million. Mr Newman like the other defendants, had pleaded not guilty to all charges arising out of the collapse of Barlow Clowes in May 1988.

The verdicts came as the jury of eight men and four women went into their fourth day of considering a total of 38 verdicts on 20 fraud and theft charges arising out of the collapse. During the 112-day hearing, they had been told by the Crown how Clowes conducted a "flagrant fraud" in a massive scale and lived a life of Riley. Clowes had systematically siphoned off

Continued on page 16, col 1

Full details, page 4

Surgery for Lawrence

The England fast bowler David Lawrence undergoes surgery in New Zealand today to determine if he will play cricket again. He broke his left kneecap while bowling in the drawn third Test.

As Lawrence was carried off on a stretcher, a television cameraman who tried to film his agony was pushed aside by the manager, Micky Stewart, then pursued up a flight of steps by wicketkeeper Jack Russell. Report, page 26

Lawrence's future and World Cup squad, page 28

Legal hitch

A teenage girl accused of blackmailing a local councillor after picking him up in a red light district has married her accuser and walked free from court. Page 3

Ward trial

Two game rangers appeared in court in Kenya charged with murdering Julie Ward three-and-a-half years ago. The prosecution case hangs on a few strands of hair. Page 16

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IX



Peter Clowes being escorted by prison officials after he was found guilty of fraud following a 112-day trial at the Central Criminal Court

Russians greet an airlift of hope

FROM BRUCE CLARK
IN MOSCOW

EAST and West confronted each other with curious wide-eyed stares at Moscow's cargo airport yesterday as an airlift of Western aid to the former Soviet Union got underway with a mixture of mud and brick efficiency.

Beefy American airmen and well-scrubbed male and female officers of the Salvation Army in dark blue uniforms strode confidently out of the belly of a huge transport plane which had the look of a beached whale as it sat on a runway half-covered by grimey snow. Facing them was a row of four small, rusty old trucks and a gaggle of shy, bewildered boy-soldiers from Central Asia, their spindly frames enveloped in the rough, ill-fitting great coats of the former Soviet army.

They stared in admiration as a gleaming forklift rolled out of the plane and began transferring the 80 tonnes of food into the trucks which will trundle them off, under the Sally Army's watchful eye, to one of the notorious depots.

Earlier James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and European officials witnessed the start of the multinational operation at the US Rhein Main Air Base, near Frankfurt. Huge US Air Force Starliners, Luftwaffe Boeings and Russian Ilyushins took off from the base, which had also served as the starting point for the Berlin airlift of more than 40 years

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Photograph, page 8

Public servants' pay rises beat inflation

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

PAY rises well above the rate of inflation are to be given to one-and-a-quarter million public servants from April 1, after the government announced yesterday that it was accepting, in full, independent recommendations for awards costing £1.8 billion.

In a decision that confirms the government's desire to avoid a clash with the public sector in the run-up to the general election, teachers are to receive increases averaging 7.5 per cent, nurses 5.8 per cent, doctors 5.5 per cent and dentists 8.5 per cent.

It is the first time the awards of the pay review bodies have been met in full, without staging or other interference, since 1987 — the last general election year — and the settlements will give

public servants increases well ahead of the "going rate" in private industry.

Pay rises in manufacturing industry averaged 4.1 per cent during the final quarter of last year, compared with 9 per cent in the same period of 1990, the Confederation of British Industry reported last night. The figure is the lowest recorded by the CBI, whose report provides the firmest evidence to date that the government is succeeding in its battle to drive down settlements in response to falls in inflation — now at 4.5 per cent. The sharp drop compares favourably with trends in Germany, where steelworkers last week won a 6.4 per cent rise.

Yesterday's announcement on public sector pay — which includes increases of between 5.9 per cent and 7.9 per cent

for the armed forces — intensified the expectation at Westminster that the general election will be on April 9. Senior ministers believe that the momentum for a poll on that day is so strong that John Major would find it difficult to pull back.

The government admitted the awards would cost some £250 million more than it had originally budgeted for when it made its allocations to health and local authorities for the pay of health service staff and teachers, and it will provide £210 million from the Treasury's reserve funds. The health authorities will have to find another £42 million.

Some 430,000 teachers will benefit from what Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, called a substantial increase. A key feature of the award will be about 26,000

incentive allowances of up to £4,000 for primary school teachers with special responsibilities or for good performance, a principle the government wants to extend across the public service.

Mr Clarke said the review body recommendation was a tribute to the dedication and achievement of teachers. Mr Major has made plain since becoming prime minister his determination to improve the status of the teaching profession. Last year he said: "We want the good teacher to live in a good house and drive a good car. We need to give teachers back the status in society they once had and that will, over a period of time, mean more money for the right teachers delivering the right service."

Government sources emphasised the awards were going to groups that had not always done well in relation to the private sector, and still represented the lowest average increases for the armed forces and doctors and dentists since 1979, and for nurses since 1983, when their review body was set up.

GPs' pay currently averages about £37,975; the rise puts salaries up to approximately £40,000 a year. Staff nurses now earning approximately £10,230 will receive £10,820. A high street dentist, now paid £33,010, will get £35,815 in future.

Pay rise details and reaction, page 5
Leading article, page 13

Channel tunnel opening delayed three months

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

THE Channel tunnel, long beset by financing and construction difficulties, is to miss its scheduled opening date of June 15, 1993, it was announced yesterday.

The delay, likely to be at least three months, is the severest blow yet to Eurotunnel, the operators, who have always maintained that the date would be met. It is likely to cost the company more

than £200 million in revenues as a direct result, and financial analysts raised the spectre of another call on the banks by the company, while the leader of the local authorities involved in the project labelled the slippage "a fiasco". In a surprise statement yesterday, Eurotunnel said

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Overwhelming task, page 2



Euro shoppers win tobacco and drink bonus

FROM TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS

HOLIDAYMAKERS and business travellers returning from Europe will be able to bring back greater quantities of drink and cigarettes next year if they buy them in supermarkets, European Community finance ministers agreed yesterday.

The deal, which excludes goods bought in duty-free shops, is expected to increase pressure on the British government to reduce excise duties. It will be a boost to the growing pattern of cross-Channel shopping for day trippers.

From January 1 next year travellers will be free to carry the following personal amounts of duty-paid goods: ten cases of wine (12 x 75cl bottles per case); one case of spirits (12 x 75cl bottles); 800 cigarettes and 20 crates of beer (24 x 25cl bottles in

each). A British official said that it was too early to say what the effects of the new rules will be, but the commission hopes they will force member states to harmonise their levels of excise duty through natural market forces.

Wine is far cheaper on the Continent, and shoppers living near the Channel are expected to take full advantage of the new rules. The excise duty now on a bottle of wine in Britain is about £1; in France it is about 20p.

Originally the commission had intended travellers' allowances to be scrapped altogether, but Brussels realised a sudden change in price structures would spell catastrophe for liquor vendors and off-licences in high excise duty countries.

The picture maybe further clouded, however, if the commission succeeds with a new directive that proposes

excise duty on cigarettes should comprise at least 57 per cent of their overall retail price. The tobacco lobby is resisting the proposal, claiming it would drive prices higher in northern Europe, but leave them untouched in southern Europe and encourage widespread bootlegging.

The Confederation of European Community Cigarette Manufacturers, a Brussels-based lobby which represents the industry giants in Brussels, has estimated that bootleggers with a three tonne truck filled with cigarettes in Portugal could make £125,000 on the black market in Denmark. The European Parliament in Strasbourg will debate the Commission's proposals for excise duty on cigarettes this week.

The commission wants to abolish the concept of duty-free shopping by 1999. At present travellers allowances are: 300 cigarettes; 50 litres of

beer; 1.5 litres of spirits and five litres of wine.

Meanwhile John Maples, economic secretary to the Treasury, said there was no danger of Britain's cider makers being forced out of business by swingeing new excise duties that would have doubled prices.

It had been thought that a blunder had left cider classified by Brussels Eurocrats as wine, and therefore liable to twice as much excise duty as it bears at present.

The question surprised Mr Maples who had been boning up on multi-lateral surveillance plans for economic and monetary union at the expense of the Save Our Strongbow campaign. He had nothing to say on the subject until a British official quickly jotted a statement down on a pad. When it is discussed it will be vigorously defended on behalf of the UK cider industry, he said.

Britons held in Cold War labour camps

FROM BRUCE CLARK
IN MOSCOW

THE first scraps of evidence are coming to light about one of the most shadowy chapters of the Cold War: the alleged detention of tens of thousands of Americans, and possibly some Britons, in the gulag labour camps of Siberia.

General Dmitri Volkogonov, the liberal military historian, told the business weekly *Commerzant* that he had unearthed four KGB files referring to American prisoners detained in Russia after the second world war. He had also received "sensational" but as yet unverified reports that Americans had been held captive at Kolyma in Siberia and at Tambov in Russia.

Recently declassified US documents indicate that the Red Army took into its own hands up to 20,000 Americans whom it "liberated" from Nazi prison camps as it swept through eastern Germany, and of whom nothing more was officially heard after the war. Yuri Pankov, a *Commerzant* reporter, said he had seen a letter from the Tambov security police chief dated May 1945, advising the head of a prison camp of the arrival of 2,500 prisoners from France, Luxembourg, America and Britain.

The KGB files, described by the general as "vague and without names", were part of a dossier on "anti-American actions between 1945 and 1979" compiled at the request of Mikhail Gorbachev and left at the Kremlin when he resigned.

General Volkogonov was entrusted by Boris Yeltsin, the Russian leader, to investigate the fate of missing Americans after a request from President Bush. An American lobby group called the National Alliance of Families has offered up to \$2.4 million (£1.3 million) for information on the fate of missing Americans in the former Soviet Union.

Mr Pankov says he has firm evidence that some of the 2,354 Americans listed as "missing in action" after Vietnam were sent to the Soviet Union, including five who died of fever as they were being taken by ship to Vladivostok. He knows of at least one case where an American pilot shot down over Vietnam agreed to work for Soviet intelligence.

TODAY IN
THE TIMES

SOCIALISM
WITH FIZZ



Coming to the aid
of the Labour
party in the best
possible taste
Life & Times
Page 1

RALLYING
FOR JUSTICE



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prepare to
argue their case
to Lord Mackay
— all at once
Life & Times
Page 7

A QUEST FOR
PERFECTION



Debunking the
dolly bird myth
with a search
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Life & Times
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Eurotunnel overwhelmed by sheer scale of venture



Problems: the Folkestone entrance to the tunnel

DIGGING an £8 billion hole between Britain and France was never going to be easy. After years of stumbling from one difficulty to another, Eurotunnel, which will operate services through the Channel tunnel, admits that it has been overwhelmed by the size of the task.

Postponing the tunnel's much vaunted opening date on June 15 next year is more than just the latest in a series of setbacks which has kept the company in a state of turmoil since it won the concession to build the tunnel in 1986.

During the past six years, the cost of the project has increased from £4.7 billion to £8.9 billion. Spiralling costs have embittered relations between Eurotunnel and its contractors. Delays in delivering rolling stock and the effective postponement of the Channel tunnel rail link until after the turn of

What has caused the delay in the much advertised opening of the Channel tunnel? Michael Dynes reviews the complex drama under the waves

the century have helped to heighten the Channel tunnel drama. The opening date had achieved the status of an article of faith, and had been used to ease the company through its previous difficulties. Completion of the project on time seemed achievable when, after years of scepticism — the teams of construction workers 'actually linked up beneath the seabed 14 months ago.

Now the timetable has been defeated by the sheer logistic complexity of delivering mile after mile of high-tech fixed equipment down this tube-like passage through the chalk, massive though it is. Fitting out the tunnel involves laying almost 100 miles of continuous weld-

ed track, weighing 12,000 tonnes, between the two terminal sites at Cheriton and Coquelles. Fixing 300 miles of steel piping to the tunnel walls will take 100,000 brackets.

The job has been likened to building a railway on a 38-mile viaduct, where the workers have to haul everything with them at the start of each shift. Any delay creates a knock-on effect on the teams of workers waiting to start their particular task, and the cumulative delays have now become too much for the deadline. Privately, Eurotunnel officials admit that they have lost control over the complexities involved in the construction process.

The consequences of the slippage are worst in terms of image and

finance. After the triumph of the breakthrough, the whole project once again takes on an air of uncertainty, the last thing likely to keep investment rolling in during a recession. Even worse, the direct financial consequences are severe: the tunnel will lose the cross-Channel summer revenues for 1993, projected at about £70 million per month.

Does this mean that Eurotunnel will once more go cap in hand to the banks? Some analysts think so, but the company is adamant that it has sufficient funds available for opening. Still, the bankers remain nervous.

Eurotunnel has £8.91 billion available to complete the project, and a projected expenditure of £8.05 billion. But it has yet to resolve its financial differences with Transmanche Link, the Anglo-French construction company re-

sponsible for building the tunnel. The extra £800 million (£1.2 billion at 1992 prices) the contractors are demanding to finish the job would wipe out Eurotunnel's financial safety margin.

Besides, the announcement comes three months after Eurotunnel disclosed that safety changes to the design of Channel tunnel trains would delay the introduction of the full fleet of passenger and freight trains until the summer of 1994, costing the company £150 million in lost revenue.

Whatever happens, the project is highly unlikely to collapse. Too much national pride is involved on both sides of the Channel — as well as the vast sums of cash. One observer said yesterday: "The tunnel is simply too big to go bust."

Opening delayed, page 1

Man dies in blast at docks refinery

One man was killed and at least three people were injured last night after a huge explosion at the Grange-mouth docks on the Firth of Forth (Richard Duce writes). Dense black smoke hung over the docks, the site of BP's



biggest refinery, after the explosion, which was believed to be centred on a oil storage tank.

The explosion released a cloud of noxious gases and police warned people living on the northern shore of the estuary opposite the docks to stay indoors and keep their windows shut.

The noise of the blast, close to the £60 million BP refinery on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth could be heard four miles away on the opposite coast.

Three die in house fire

A mother and her two daughters died in a fire yesterday. Marie Houghton was found with Becky, aged one, and Selina, aged four, in the bedrooms at their terraced house at Laindon, Basildon, Essex.

The children's father, Tommy Houghton, was beaten back by flames as he tried to reach them. He was taken to hospital with severe burns and head injuries after leaping from a window. Mrs Houghton, who was overcome by smoke while trying to reach Becky, was found slumped beside her cot.

Council opens mortgage line

The first mortgage debt advice line run by a local authority opened yesterday in Manchester. Peter Bailey, an adviser from the city council's housing aid service, answered more than 30 calls when the line opened. "It has been extremely busy," he said.

The Mortgage Debt Line (061 234 4708) was started after 565 homes in the city were repossessed last year, twice the number of the previous year, and because the Manchester housing department sees no sign that the number is likely to fall.

Twenty jobs go

Sotheby's the auctioneers is to make 20 of its staff redundant. The move, which comes after a similar one at Christie's a year ago, indicates how hard the recession is biting into what, until recently, was a boom industry. Some dealers say the market is at its most beleaguered for 25 years, with people neither buying nor selling in some areas. The redundancies affect 13 people in London, four in Sussex and two in the regions. A spokeswoman said that the list included a number of experts but no heads of departments.

Drug test delay

Cancer charities are frustrated that the Medical Research Council has further delayed a trial of the drug tamoxifen to see if it can be used to prevent breast cancer. Instead of approving a trial, as had been hoped, the council has appointed a new committee to examine ethical and other implications of using the drug. An earlier committee found that a trial would be ethically acceptable.

5% rejected

Vauxhall's 4,000 hourly paid car workers voted to reject the company's latest pay offer. Vauxhall is offering a two-year package — 5 per cent this year with an inflation-linked increase in the second year. There was also to be a lump sum worth half a per cent. Unions want a one-year deal of 12 per cent or one linked to the Retail Price Index plus 3 per cent, which is higher.

Bewitched, Betrothed at Bentley's

The most exquisite betrothal rings come from Bentley & Co who buy and sell the loveliest jewellery. Their fine selection of beautiful rings may be viewed at 65 New Bond Street, and 19 Burlington Arcade, London W1, and the Bentley Collection, an illustrated compendium of antique and period jewellery, may be obtained by telephoning 071-629 0651.

Lords told asylum bill proposals will be dropped

Migrants to keep legal aid

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government confirmed yesterday that it will abandon proposals to withdraw legal aid advice for immigrants and asylum seekers, after widespread criticism from the legal profession and advice groups.

The decision was announced by Earl Ferrers, Home Office minister, in the second reading of the Asylum Bill in the House of Lords. He promised a full opportunity for consultation if the proposals to end what is called the

"green form" scheme were later revived.

The move was immediately welcomed by the Law Society, the Bar and the Legal Action Group, some of the many organisations which have opposed the proposals. John Appleby, chairman of the Law Society's courts and legal services committee, said the society was delighted that the government had recognised public concern over this issue.

"We made it clear from the day the proposal was first

announced that it was considered unworkable in practice and wrong in principle to deprive these vulnerable people of legal advice," he said.

The government had intended that the United Kingdom Immigrants' Advisory Service should take over the job from solicitors of advising immigrants. Disputes inside the service have left it in turmoil, and Lord Ferrers said yesterday that its governing committees were no longer

supervising the service in the manner which should be expected of an organisation receiving government grants. The grants would be withdrawn and transferred to a new body which would be responsible for representing asylum seekers under the new appeal system, he said.

Lord Ferrers said that, in the coming year, there would be extra immigration officers, appeals adjudicators, 150 extra detention places and additional hearing rooms, and the government would spend nearly £50 million in processing asylum claims. The extra resources would help to identify quickly the genuine refugee and asylum seeker, he said.

Lord King, chairman of British Airways, protested to the government that tighter controls proposed in the Asylum Bill could needlessly extinguish an "important part" of BA's £25 million transit business.

In an sustained attack on the increasing burden put on airlines to verify passengers' documents, the Conservative peer warned ministers that many international passengers would choose to fly via continental airports instead of through London because of the new controls.

Law Times, L&T section, pages 7, 9
Law Report, L&T section, page 11

Mackay seeks MPs' backing

THE Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, took steps yesterday to counter the mounting public relations campaign against his proposals for fixed fees in magistrates' courts by lobbying every MP (Frances Gibb writes).

In what is thought to be an unprecedented move by a minister, he sent a briefing paper to MPs and held a briefing session to explain his thinking. The paper, issued 48 hours before Lord Mackay addresses solicitors on his proposals at their first national mass protest rally tomorrow, highlights among a

list of "important facts" the need to curb the big rise in costs in criminal legal aid for crown court and magistrates' court cases. "In gross terms, lawyers are now receiving over £1 billion a year from all forms of legal aid."

Lord Mackay also tells MPs that the proposed scheme of fixed fees, to replace hourly rates, is "not a cost-cutting measure". After representations by the Law Society, he has agreed to lower and upper standard fees. These should "help to control the rising cost of criminal legal aid in magistrates' courts by pegging the rate of

increase of average costs for this type of work to the annual increase in the statutory legal aid rates." They would reward those who carried out their work proficiently and quickly.

Patrick Nicholls, a Conservative MP and solicitor who attended Lord Mackay's briefing, said: "I feel a lot less unhappy, having heard the Lord Chancellor. But we must see the final figures before we can pass judgment."



Small device, big prize: Mr Bunce with his trophy and winning invention

Blood tester wins £10,000

By PETER VICTOR

A DEVICE for carrying out on-the-spot urine or blood tests won the £10,000 first prize in the Toshiba Year of Invention Awards yesterday. The prize and trophy for the printed liquidic circuit was presented by David Mellor, treasury secretary, at the Savoy Hotel, London.

The circuit, a single layer of filter paper printed with a pattern of wax tracks to control liquid flow, was developed by chemists and

engineers at the Wolfson research laboratories at Birmingham University. The team's leader, Roger Bunce, said the tiny device would enable tests for pregnancy, HIV antibodies and cholesterol levels to be carried out while the patient waits in the doctor's surgery.

The team is investigating future applications for the device, including measuring soil nutrient levels and spot checks on food products.

Commercial response to the circuit has been good, Mr Bunce said. Forty companies had expressed an interest in the technology.

Over 4,000 inventions were entered for the awards, although some were described yesterday by Ian McNaught-Davis, the chief judge, as "absolutely useless". These included a self-correcting pen, not yet made, and an electronically controlled mirror for budgies.

Russia denies link to Labour

The Russian foreign ministry yesterday denied that the Soviet Union had maintained special links with the Labour party.

Reports alleging years of ties between Labour leaders and Soviet embassy officials in London were published in The Sunday Times on February 2. The paper said that its report was based on diplomatic cables found in secret Communist party files in Moscow. "Cables from the Soviet embassy... opened up a world of repeated contacts and discussions with Labour politicians that went far deeper than was generally appreciated," it said.

The foreign ministry said that it was only natural for the Soviet embassy to talk to political leaders.

Troops move in as Ulster talks open

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A FURTHER 600 troops were on their way to Northern Ireland last night to tackle rising violence.

The deployment, the fourth temporary increase in force levels in the province since November, came as Sinn Féin said that elements in the republican community may be planning a strike against Protestants as revenge for last week's betting shop shooting of five Roman Catholics.

The new deployment, which was not officially confirmed, is thought to be to the Tyrone area of mid-Ulster, where men of the 2nd Battalion, the Queen's Regiment, will be based. Their arrival swells regular army numbers in the province to their highest since 1980, at between 12,000 and 12,300.

The move, on the eve of today's meeting at Downing

Street between the prime minister and the four constitutional party leaders in the province to discuss security, received a guarded welcome from unionist politicians. David Trimble, MP for Upper Bann, said that he hoped that it was not a cosmetic gesture but part of a "coherent overall strategy for the defeat of terrorism".

Sinn Féin yesterday called for calm amid speculation that a republican group may be planning retaliation on Protestants committed by the Ulster Defence Association in Belfast. Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin president, reiterating IRA policy not to support purely sectarian violence, said he wanted to warn any group planning such action that it would have no role in the republican struggle.

EC sauce passes taste test

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE British housewife's dish for Europe was unveiled and consumer-tested yesterday at Claridge's in London and by passers-by on the street outside.

Peachy pork, the invention of Doreen Collinson, a retired nurse from Stone, Staffordshire, was chosen from an entry of almost a thousand in a competition organised by Woman magazine and Oxo. It was served for lunch in one of the hotel's banqueting rooms and on Brook Street. "Business is so bad inside here," the hotel linkman joked to a waiting cabbie, "that we have opened a take-away."

Mildred Wright, a customer waylaid with a spoonful as she made her way into the hotel for lunch, declared the sauce "defectable".

Mrs Collinson said that the recipe had taken her a week to perfect. Her husband, James, had it five times for dinner before announcing it fit for Europe. "He's not really a sauce man," Mrs Collinson said. "He thinks sauces are wispy-washy, so if he liked it, I knew I was on a winner."

She said that she avoided beef because of suspicions about BSE and eschewed lamb for fear of upsetting

the French. She thought that there would be too many entries based on chicken, and so plumped for pork, then added ingredients from as many European member states as she could manage. "Bear in mind the competition rules said it had to be prepared in half an hour, and had to include at least one cube of Oxo." In addition to Danish pork, she used lemons from Spain, herbs from Greece, peaches from Italy and mustard and wine from France.

In the end, though, the judges chose her recipe for sheer palatability, and not its political balance.



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SUNALLIANCE
LIFE & PENSIONS

Councillor marries prostitute accused of blackmailing him

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A TEENAGE prostitute accused of blackmailing a local councillor after picking him up in a red light district has secretly married her accuser and walked free from court.

The story of the romance between the prostitute, aged 19, and the councillor, aged 60, was described at the Central Criminal Court yesterday from which Rosemary Eltheriou was freed after the Crown offered no evidence against her.

Ronald Holt, her husband, who is a Liberal Democrat on Southwark council in south London, married her last Wednesday, the day the trial was originally listed to begin. She, however, sent the court a medical certificate claiming that she was ill.

Last night there was no answer from the couple's home in Southwark. A spokesman for the council said: "The private lives of our councillors are not our business. But it's all very exciting. We don't know where they are. They may have left the country for a while."

Sally Howes, for the prosecution, told Judge Neville that the Crown was offering no evidence against Miss Eltheriou on three charges, which she denied, of blackmailing Mr Holt, assault-



Eltheriou: stopped Mr Holt in King's Cross

ing him and damaging his car.

Miss Howes told Judge Neville that in May 1991 Mr Holt was driving in the red light area of King's Cross, north London, when the defendant stopped him, propositioned him, got into the car and made an offer for £25.

Mr Holt had explained to police that a relationship developed between them because the young woman reminded him of his daughter who died 29 years ago. But she then turned on him and threatened to expose him as a pimp to a Sunday newspaper.

"He went to the police and Eltheriou was arrested," Miss Howes said. "She was placed in custody for a week. She later went back to his house to collect some things. There was an argument and his car was damaged and she struck him."

Miss Eltheriou was charged with blackmail, criminal damage and assault occasioning actual bodily harm between September 15 and October 28, 1991.

The Crown had decided to drop the prosecution after the defendant's case was adjourned on February 5 when the court was given a medical certificate showing that she had flu. "That same afternoon Mr Holt, who had been at court, attended a wedding - his to the defendant," Miss Howes said.

Questioned by Judge Neville on whether she was satisfied that the couple had actually married, Miss Howes said that the police had seen the marriage certificate.

Mr Holt, who represents the Burgess ward as an opposition councillor on Southwark council, was not in court to see the case against his new wife dropped.

The judge agreed that it would be inappropriate for the trial to continue.

Eltheriou, dressed in jeans and with her hair tied in a pony tail, refused to talk outside the court after the case.

Flower girl: Claire Rosie, aged eight, from Flotta, Orkney, waiting to present a bouquet to the Queen at the Royal Opera House last night before a performance of *Don Giovanni* to mark the 40th anniversary of her accession

Doctor who freed killer may keep job

BY THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A PSYCHIATRIST given special leave since freeing a mental patient who then stabbed a girl to death may get his job back after six months of additional training, his health authority said yesterday.

Neil Silvester, a consultant psychiatrist at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, admitted yesterday that he was wrong to release Carol Barratt, aged 24, from a secure unit last April, halfway through a detention order made after she threatened a girl with a knife.

Two days after her release, Barratt killed Emma Brodie, aged 11, in a Doncaster shopping centre. Last October she was sent to a maximum security hospital for an indefinite period after admitting manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Dr Silvester was found to have committed "a serious error of clinical judgment". Yesterday he expressed his profound and sincere regret to Emma's family and friends at their terrible loss. "I accept that no amount of words can possibly explain to her family and friends the reason why on the 14th of April I agreed to regrade Carol Barratt's status to a voluntary patient, thereby allowing her to discharge herself to her mother's care when in a disturbed state. My decision was a difficult one. However, I acknowledge that it was wrong."

Trent Regional Health Authority said: "Dr Silvester has considerable potential to do much more good work. He should be given the opportunity to fulfil this potential."

£1.6m for motor-cycle man left in 'coma'

A landscape gardener who suffered catastrophic brain damage in a road accident which left him in a permanent coma-like state won damages likely to be worth up to £1.6 million in the High Court yesterday.

John Norris, aged 24, was knocked off his motor cycle by a van near his home at Poole, Dorset, two years ago. He gets a lump sum of £135,000 and an index-linked £50,000 a year. Doctors give him up to 15 years to live. Damages will be paid by the insurers of the van driver, Michael Keene, aged 69, of Bournemouth, Dorset, who was convicted of driving without due care and attention and admitted liability.

Car boot find

A valuable painting stolen five years ago has been recovered after a man took it to Sotheby's to sell. He had bought the work, a view of Westminster Abbey by John Inigo Richards, a founder member of the Royal Academy, for £40 at a car boot sale. The Art Loss Register, a private list of stolen art, confirmed that the painting had been stolen in 1987. The work is thought to belong to the Marquess of Bute.

PC sentenced

A policeman who stole £28,000 while treasurer of a police "thrift fund" was put on probation for three years after a judge was told that he had a brain disorder that affects judgment. At Southwark crown court, south London, PC Gordon Finnie, aged 45, who was based at Holloway, north London, admitted ten charges of theft. He has been suspended from the force. His brother has repaid the money.

Jail criticised

Serious overcrowding in two wings of Hull prison is criticised today in a report by Judge Tummim, chief inspector of prisons, as being unacceptable. It says that some cells are dirty, poorly decorated and covered in graffiti.

New regiment

The merged Queen's and Royal Hampshire Regiment is to be named the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment. The princess is colonel-in-chief of the Royal Hampshire.

Keays attacks baby trap 'lie'

SARA Keays condemned newspaper stories that she became pregnant as part of a plot to trap the former minister Cecil Parkinson into marrying her as "an appalling lie" in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Parkinson knew she might become pregnant during their 11-year affair, she told a libel jury. "He used to joke about it, that it was bound to be a boy and say things like 'If he had my beauty and your brains, Sara, he'll go far'."

Miss Keays, aged 44, said that their daughter, Flora, now eight, was conceived at a time when she believed Mr Parkinson intended to marry her. After the affair became public in 1983, newspaper articles suggested that Flora was part of a "plot to keep this man". But Miss Keays said her daughter was loved and wanted.

Miss Keays, of Marksbury, near Bath, was giving evidence on the sixth day of her action against *New Woman* magazine, which she claims accuses her of being a kiss-and-tell bimbo who wrote her book, *A Question of Judgment*, to make money and cause maximum embarrassment to Mr Parkinson.

She said that Mr Parkinson had asked her to marry him on three occasions. "The relationship continued because I believed he wanted and intended to marry me. My daughter was conceived in such a relationship."

Miss Keays said her "blood ran cold" when an article in *The Sunday Times* referred to diaries and tape recordings she had kept on her affair with Mr Parkinson. "That would confirm everyone's suspicions about the book being kiss and tell. It's awful."

The hearing continues today.

'Patients benefit' from GP budgets

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

GIVING GPs their own budgets to buy hospital services has already brought benefits for patients and has not led to a two-tier service or made health authorities planning more difficult, according to the first study of the scheme, published today.

The study says, however, that there is a danger that practices may exclude high-risk patients, because they are too expensive to treat, unless the financing system is improved. Professor Howard Glennerster, who wrote the study for the independent Kings Fund Institute, said that he started out as a sceptic about fundholding, "but was now 'far more positive about the opportunities it presents'".

The British Medical Association said that the study covered only the first three months of fundholding and was based on anecdotal reports from only ten practices in three regions.

The study found that the main motive of the GPs involved was to obtain greater freedom and more control over hospital services.

Some GPs are charging patients who request an interview before deciding whether to sign with the practice, and may then use the interview to vet them, the Consumers' Association says today.

Its survey of family health authorities finds that changing doctors is not as easy as it should be. Patients with long-term conditions likely to take up time and money may not be accepted, it says.

The survey, published in *Which? Way to Health*, monitored the experiences of 16 people who wanted to change their GP and sought interviews before signing with the new practice.

Cancer pledge, page 7

PTA backs head of opt-out school

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION REPORTER

PARENTS of pupils at an opt-out school in east London called yesterday for the resignation of four governors involved in a dispute with the headmistress. In a letter to all 17 governors, the new parent-teacher association at Stratford school demands the immediate resignation of the four.

Ghulam Shaikh, chairman of the governors, Sikender Ali, vice-chairman, and Tom Roche and Harbhajan Singh, both teacher-governors, have led opposition to Anne Snelling, the headmistress, alleging incompetence and racism. Mrs Snelling was suspended by the governors last month, then reinstated after the intervention of Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary. Mr Clarke appointed two new governors,

who have called an emergency meeting of the governors tonight. Mr Shaikh said that the meeting had been called without proper authority.

The school opted out of Newham borough council's control in April last year, since when its roll has risen from 180 to 600. The PTA's first meeting was attended by 80 people. One of those, Barbara Scivetti, said yesterday that parents were overwhelmingly in support of Mrs Snelling.

Bob Balchin, chairman of the Grant Maintained Schools Foundation, which advises opt-out schools, addressed a full assembly about the dispute yesterday morning, and said at a press conference that there were no grounds to question Mrs Snelling's abilities as a headmistress.

Police were called to the school on Friday after Mr Shaikh was refused permission to address the lower school assembly. He and Mr Singh, who has already been suspended by Mrs Snelling and re-instated by the governors, allegedly locked themselves in an office.

Mr Shaikh said yesterday that Mrs Snelling's resignation was the only way out of the present impasse. Stratford's problem, he said, was that a predominantly white staff was teaching a predominantly Asian school.

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CAERNARFON CASTLE

Colour coded: the Queen's head on these high-value stamps changes from green to gold in varying light to make life hard for forgers. Part of a set of four, they will be issued on February 24

Low-flying jets make eggs go white

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

LOW-FLYING military aircraft are frightening poultry in the West Country causing them to lay misshapen eggs with white shells, according to vets and farmers. In their panic, hundreds of birds are said to have turned to cannibalism or been suffocated.

David Shingleton, a vet in south Devon, said: "When the birds are badly frightened they fail to produce the pigment that darkens the shells. The egg shell is also often thinner, and sometimes deformed, and the number of eggs laid is reduced."

Most egg producers supply supermarket chains that demand brown shells because consumers prefer them.

White eggs usually sell for no more than 20p a dozen, compared with 70p to 90p for brown.

Mr Shingleton said: "If birds are outside, they will all rush for the hen house and some get crushed to death as they try to squeeze through the popholes. If they are inside, they will fly to one end of the house and pile on top of each other. I have seen up to a third of a flock killed in this way."

Bob Cox, who has a flock of 40,000 layers at Combe Martin, north Devon, is seeking £11,000 in damages from the defence ministry over an incident in January of last year. "We heard this tremendous roar in the early hours when it was still dark. Afterwards we found 850 birds piled up and suffocated in one house and 50 dead in

another." A similar incident in March resulted in fewer deaths, but large numbers of white and misshapen eggs, he said.

Dennis Brown, a farmer of East Anstey, Devon, recently had to slaughter 14,000 hens because they were so badly stressed by low-flying planes, according to Paul Cooper, the National Farmers' Union's poultry adviser in the South West, who is pursuing seven cases with the defence ministry.

The defence ministry, which last year paid out £429,000 to livestock and poultry farmers, said: "Low flying is the best way of evading modern radar and our airmen need to practise this skill. But the airforce is being reduced in size, and the amount of low-flight training will be cut by a third by 1995."

BT

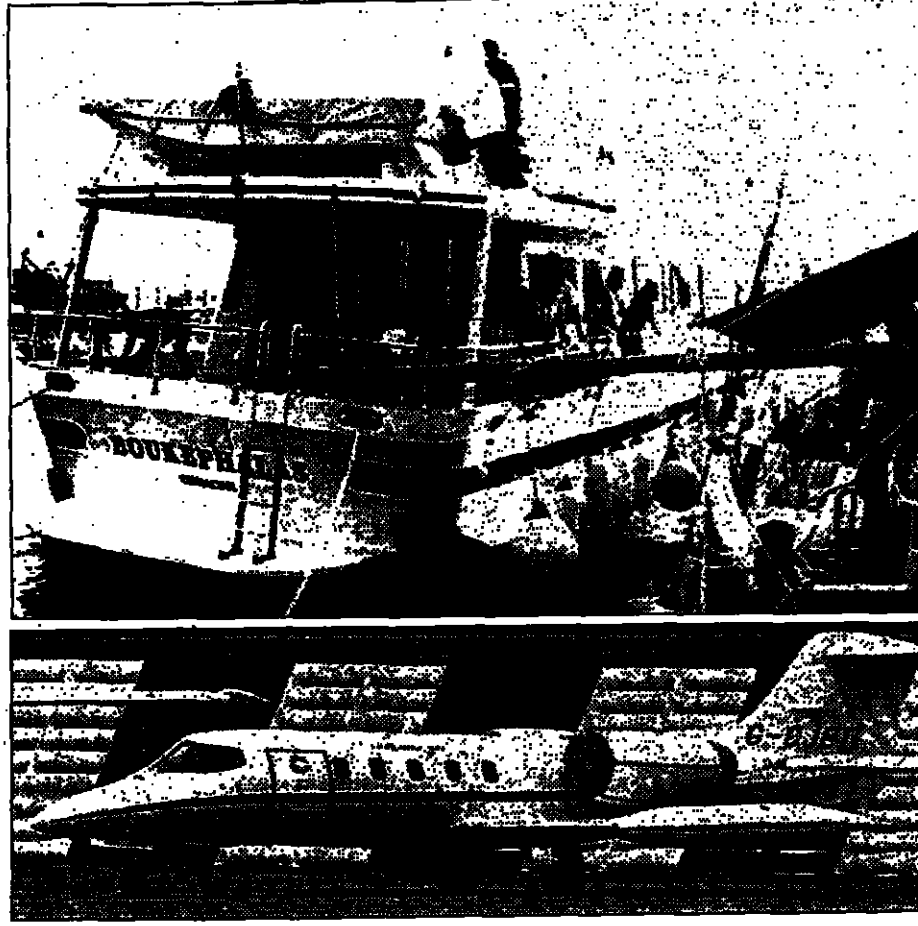
BARLOW CLOWES: THE COLLAPSE OF AN INVESTOR'S DREAM

Gilt-edged lifestyle of a conman

Peter Clowes looked like the kind of man investors could trust. Not only his looks were deceptive. Jon Ashworth charts the spectacular downfall of a working class boy made bad



Jetsetter: Peter Clowes, the man investors thought they could trust, and the trappings of a flamboyant lifestyle funded by their savings, Boukephalas, above right, bought from Christina Onassis, and one of his four personal jets



PETER Clowes made an unlikely jetsetter. He would have looked as at home on a beach in Bali as a Californian surfer behind a dealing desk in the City. His clients warmed to him. Here was a normal person, someone who called a spade a spade and who had not forgotten his humble roots in a Manchester suburb. Someone they could trust.

But jetsetter he was, with a home in Cheshire, a chateau in France, two yachts in the Mediterranean, a farm in the Peak district, a Porsche, a helicopter and four executive jets, two with P and C registrations to match his initials. He drank Veuve Clicquot champagne and took holidays in the Caribbean. During the boom years of the Eighties, Clowes was living life to the full.

He and some of his companies blew £113 million in an orgy of spending that knew no bounds. The collapse of his investment empire in May 1988 triggered a chain of events that ruined countless lives and brought scorn on the trade and industry department, which licensed Barlow Clowes in 1985.

It was the department's failings that prompted the government to grant a £150 million Christmas handout to 18,000 investors in December 1989. The payments were a humanitarian gesture. The government accepted no blame for the collapse and is now pursuing for recompense any financial institution involved in recommending Barlow Clowes.

The Peter Clowes story reads like a best-seller. A working class boy, he left school at 15 to work in his parents' hardware shop in Manchester. After ten years

selling pots and pans over the counter he chose a career in life insurance and joined International Life, a British company linked to the notorious Investors Overseas Services, run by Bernie Cornfeld. The Cornfeld philosophy was summed up in one famous phrase: "Do you sincerely want to be rich?"

It was there that Clowes met Elizabeth Barlow, a fellow sales representative and branch manager, and in 1973 the pair left to form an investment company specialising in gilts. Barlow Clowes was born.

By 1980, Mrs Barlow had left to pursue other interests and the company had £10 million under management. Seven years later, as a result of widespread advertising and word-of-mouth recommendations, the amount had rocketed to £190 million.

For elderly investors seeking a safe income in retirement, Barlow Clowes seemed the perfect choice, offering high rates of interest, no hidden charges, and instant access to funds. Best of all, the money was invested in securities backed by the government. What could be safer?

A great play was made on the practice of "bond-washing", since banned, which involved buying gilts after a dividend had been paid and selling them before the next dividend payment. That device was used to turn income into capital gains, and appealed to investors seeking to minimise their tax liabilities.

So the money came pouring in. By now, Clowes had begun expanding far beyond his original brief. He had investments in property, jewellery and aviation, hidden behind a web of offshore companies and nominee names.

In 1985, as Britain soared into one of the strongest bull markets of the century, Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers, as it was then called, won the trade department's stamp of approval. Barlow Clowes International was founded in Gibraltar in 1986.

Two years later, in spring 1988, the empire fell apart. On May 27, Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers was placed in provisional liquidation at the request of the Securities and Investments Board, then barely a month old. Three weeks later, on June 15, Clowes was arrested by fraud squad detectives near his £350,000 home in Prestbury, Cheshire, as he drove to buy his morning newspapers. He was charged with perverting the course of justice. The rags-to-riches story was over.

By the time of his arrest, everyone in Britain had heard of Peter Clowes. "£10 million spree of spend, spend Clowes" screamed one headline. "£100 million may be lost for ever in jet set tycoon's big crash" declared another.

For the first time, investors read of the Boukephalas, a 101 ft floating palace bought from Christina Onassis for \$2.5 million, which slipped its moorings in Spain as receivers were about to pounce, and of her sister ship, the Kuwaiti-registered Yara, bought for \$1 million.

They read of the 16th century Château d'Auros and its 50-acre estate with its "own label" wine near Bordeaux, bought for £600,000, and of Far Coombes, a 292-acre sheep farm in the Derbyshire Peak district.

They read of Clowes's £80,000 silver Porsche coupé decked out in can-can red leather, his £68,000 Bentley Turbo, and of how the former husband of his wife, Pamela, "was also" his chauffeur.

They read of the personalised Learjets based on the Isle

of Man, one of them kitted out with cocktail cabinet and in-flight television, the Squirrel helicopter and the landing pad at his luxurious home, the long weekends in the Caribbean, the champagne parties, the farm in Surrey, and the jewellers in Hatton Garden. There was no end to the stories.

When the storm broke, Clowes was adamant that he had done nothing wrong. He promised investors in the Gibraltar fund that they would be fully reimbursed within a year. Then, in an abrupt about-turn days later, he admitted to channelling more than £100 million of investors' money into a range of businesses. He was arrested soon afterwards.

Even as the investigations continued, Clowes found it impossible to shrug off his flamboyant image. There was an outcry when he was granted £1,000 a week living expenses by the liquidators in return for his assistance in tracing funds while the investors, many of whom had lost their life savings, were losing their homes. There was further outrage when it emerged that Clowes was spending £150,000 to renovate a cottage held in his wife's name.

When the going was good, Barlow Clowes seemed like an investor's dream. Here was an apparently reputable company that advertised in respectable newspapers and promised high returns. Today, with the Financial Services Act, investors can rest a little easier when they hand over their cheques. But it makes you wonder.

Clowes guilty, page 1

Countdown to conviction

1973 — Barlow Clowes & Partners set up by Peter Clowes and Elizabeth Barlow to sell gilts to private investors.

1976 — Mrs Barlow leaves the company.

1984 — DTI approaches the company to establish whether it should be licensed under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958. Rumours about the company are later reported to the DTI.

October 1985 — DTI grants licence to Barlow Clowes after what Lord Young, the trade minister, described as "prolonged negotiations and the receipt of assurances".

October 1986 — DTI renews licence.

April 1987 — Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers reverses into James Ferguson, a loss-making textile firm, with Clowes as chairman and chief executive.

October 1987 — DTI, dissatisfied with monitoring returns from Barlow Clowes, appoints investigators, but renews licence nevertheless.

May 25, 1988 — Shares in James Ferguson suspended.

May 27, 1988 — Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers placed in provisional liquidation at request of Securities and Investments Board.

June 7, 1988 — Joint liquidators appointed to wind up Barlow Clowes International, based in Gibraltar. Clowes, in a statement, "totally denies" that offshore funds are at risk.

June 12, 1988 — Clowes admits secretly channelling more than £100 million into a range of companies to which he is personally connected.

June 13, 1988 — Government launches independent enquiry into DTI handling of the Barlow Clowes affair. Sir Godfrey Le Queune, QC, to head enquiry.

June 15, 1988 — Clowes arrested by fraud squad detectives and charged with perverting the course of justice by destroying documents. He is later released on bail of £300,000.

July 6, 1988 — Court orders compulsory winding-up of Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers.

August 17, 1988 — Clowes insists: "Not a penny is missing."

October 20, 1988 — Le Queune report published. Government rejects calls to compensate investors.

December 8, 1988 — Clowes charged with 16 offences of theft, conspiracy to steal and false accounting involving more than £22 million. Guy von Cramer, Peter Naylor and Christopher Newman arrested. Naylor and Mr Newman charged with five offences each. Mr von Cramer charged with four.

December 19, 1988 — Trade and industry department accused of "significant maladministration" in its handling of Barlow Clowes. Government announces £150 million payout for investors.

March 13, 1990 — Clowes sent for trial.

March 16, 1990 — Clowes granted legal aid.

October 8, 1990 — Preliminary hearing at Central Criminal Court, London.

March 25, 1991 — Clowes reported "seriously ill" in hospital. He is said to be suffering from ulcers.

July 2, 1991 — Trial opens at Chester Rems.

February 10, 1992 — Clowes convicted. Naylor convicted on one theft charge and acquitted of three theft charges and one of conspiracy. Mr von Cramer and Mr Newman acquitted of all charges.

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THE TIMES

'He can't go down for long enough'

BY BILL FROST

BLACK Monday cost Alan and Beryl Jebson £15,000. Having lost faith in the stock market, he decided to take "expert" advice, and put much of what remained of his savings with Barlow Clowes. It was a decision Mr Jebson, now aged 64, came to regret.

Like the majority of investors, he received compensation from the government but traumatic memories linger. "My financial advisers were to blame, so was the Department of Trade, but chiefly Peter Clowes," he said. "As far as I'm concerned, that man can't go down for long enough. He did an awful lot of harm to an awful lot of people. No amount of compensation makes up for that."

Mr Jebson, a retired businessman from Solihull, put £40,000 with Barlow Clowes. The money was to be a "nest egg" for his daughter, who suffers from Down's syndrome. "Every penny we had accumulated was for her use and care after we were no longer there to look after her," he said.

Mr Jebson, a diabetic, retired early when his sight began to fail. Advisers told him that an investment with Barlow Clowes was "as safe as houses... a very sound prospect."

Front-page headlines in June 1988 told a rather different story. Disbelief and panic gave way to fury, Mr Jebson said. "It was like being told you had got a terminal illness."

When the anger passed, the Jebsons joined a group of fellow Barlow Clowes investors and devoted themselves to recovering as much of their money as

possible. "After the fury and the nail-biting, you decide not to get mad but to get even," Mr Jebson said. "The anger returned when the Jebsons heard that a court had granted Clowes £1,000 a week in living expenses. "We were trying to live on £50 a week having lost our savings, and others were even worse off because of that man. It was a scandal," Mr Jebson said.

The eventual compensation from the government was tacit recognition of inadequate regulation by the trade department, Mr Jebson said. "Twelve thousand people suffered because of

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Clowes. I would hope they have all done as we have now and put their money into something much safer."

Frank and Christine McDermott, from Llandrindod Wells, Powys, had put £20,000 with Barlow Clowes. The couple, both aged 72, were on the point of investing the proceeds of a house sale when the crash came. "We had a funny feeling about Barlow Clowes at the last minute and kept the money back. They had sent us literature which said not to declare earnings on your income tax return. It seemed odd," Mrs McDermott said.

When the bad news arrived with the morning paper, the McDermotts went "into shock". After a week or so, they had come to terms with their loss. "We said we still had each other and our health, then we decided to fight for our money back," Mrs McDermott said.

The couple joined an investors' group. "We began to laugh at ourselves for having made such a dreadful mistake; it was a way of keeping our spirits up. But we never really expected to get the money back," she said.

Like so many other investors with Barlow Clowes, the couple were incensed when they heard that the chief architect of their misfortune was to be allowed to draw £1,000 a week for living expenses. "It made us so angry, this man who had conned all these people being allowed to carry on enjoying all the luxuries life had to offer," Mrs McDermott said.

"No matter what Clowes is sentenced to, that will never make up for the suffering he put others through," she said.

Nest egg: Alan and Beryl Jebson, who invested £40,000

Public sector awards

Classroom pay averages £18,200

By JOHN O'LEARY

THE first award for teachers from their pay review body will give them the year's biggest rise in the public sector, Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, claimed yesterday.

The government has agreed to implement in full the recommendations of the new review body chaired by Sir Graham Day, chairman of British Aerospace. Local authorities will receive an extra £60 million to fund a 7.8 per cent increase in the teachers' pay bill.

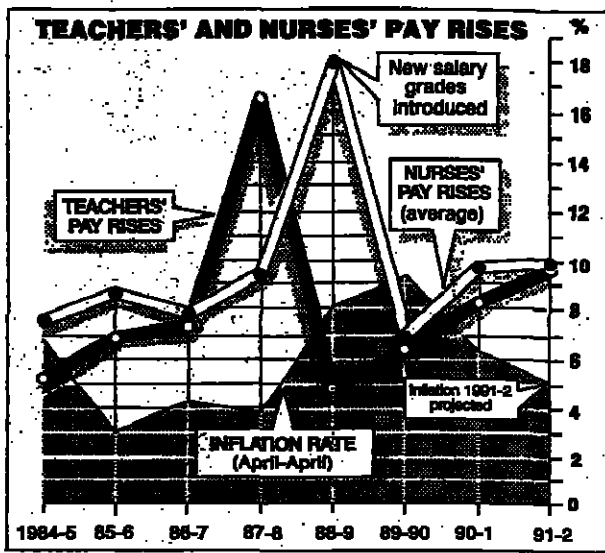
All teachers will be given a 7.5 per cent rise in April, and

to introduce performance-related pay. While accepting the principle, the review body raised a number of difficulties in constructing a fair system. A scheme to reward whole schools, rather than individual teachers, may be introduced in 1993-4.

Teachers' unions, which had been seeking increases of up to 26 per cent, gave the announcement a mixed reaction. The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association said it was "disappointing but realistic", while the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers said that the increase was a "small step forward". The National Association of Head Teachers saw it as "a reasonable first step on the long road back to decent pay comparability for teachers".

The National Union of Teachers, however, said: "No matter how you spread too little, it remains too little. This cannot be seen in isolation from past settlements." Starting salaries would still be £912 below the real terms equivalent before the 1987 election, and to recruit sufficient new entrants, schools would have to rely on the recession continuing.

The review body's report said: "Our judgment is that



Post	1982-83	1991-92
Class teacher	11,184-18,897	10,494-17,523
Head teacher	22,182-36,488	20,634-33,942
	22,811-50,181	21,212-45,080

general problems of recruitment and retention have diminished, but that serious difficulties remain in some subjects and some localities. However, some deterioration seems likely as the economy moves out of recession." Mr Clarke dismissed local authorities' claims that they could not afford more than 3.7 per cent. He said that education budgets had 7.2 per cent built in for teachers'

pay, and the extra £60 million to be added to the rate support grant would plug the gap.

Mr Clarke said: "I am delighted that the review body has concluded that teachers deserve a substantial pay increase. It is a tribute to teachers' dedication and to their achievements." Without the establishment of the pay review body, the award would have been smaller, he added.

For the first time in three years, the increase will be paid in full, rather than being phased in over several months. Classroom teachers will receive the same as heads and deputies because the review body found no case for widening differentials for a third successive year.

The extra incentives will mean that 7 per cent of all teachers receive some allowance for special responsibility or high performance. All primary schools will benefit from the change, which should see 220,000 teachers receiving incentives by September. Teachers' pay will be simplified from next year, and the education department will produce a layman's guide to the current settlement to inform governors.

Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, said: "Teachers will view this award with cynicism. The last time they received a significant real terms increase was just before the 1987 election. Jeremy Beecham, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said that education authorities remained £300 million short of the amount they would need to fund the settlement, and 12,500 teaching jobs were in jeopardy."

£1.8bn pay rises, page one
Leading article, page 13

Dentists condemn hollow victory

By JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

DENTISTS are to receive an 8.5 per cent pay rise, double the rate of inflation and 3 per cent above that for doctors, because a growing number are experiencing "business difficulties" running practices in the NHS. The rise takes their target average pay to £35,815.

However, dentists may end up with a pay cut. This year, they have done more work than expected and received a "substantial overpayment", according to the health de-

partment. Dentists' leaders are negotiating with the department how it is to be paid back, but they have been told that they have already received more than their rise is worth. The British Dental Association called the 8.5 per cent rise "a hollow victory". In its report, the Doctors and Dentists Review Body says that it is "concerned to hear that NHS dentistry at the required professional standard may no longer be viable for some practitioners". It had "become very clear that the present remuneration system does not reward them adequately and fairly" because of variations in patterns of working, age and earnings.

Last month, the department published a survey showing that a quarter of dentists are turning away some NHS patients as they increase private practice.

The Doctors and Dentists Review Body says that a survey shows dentists working longer hours, and coping with more work and administration. It also took into account "reports of business difficulties".

The doctors' rise has been held to 5.5 per cent, taking the maximum for a consultant, without a merit award, to



Open wide: dentists' 8.5 per cent rise may be eaten up by repayment rules

£48,945 and a GP's target average pay to £40,010.

The British Medical Association said that doctors needed a 10 per cent rise this year to stop them from falling behind comparable professions. However, the DDRB says that job security remains high in the NHS and must be considered when comparing doctors with professions "who are more exposed to market forces and face substantial risks of bankruptcy during a recession".

The report says that the new GP contract, with targets for immunisations and cervical smears, is acknowledged as a great success by the department and the BMA.

Nurses and midwives are to receive rises averaging 5.8 per cent and professions allied to medicine 6.3 per cent. William Waldegrave, the health secretary, said that, since 1979, nurses had received pay increases of 43.3 per cent after inflation.

Post	1982-83	1991-92
House officer	13,000-14,880	12,325-13,915
Senior house officer	18,225-20,555	15,375-18,515
Registrar	18,385-22,510	17,440-21,145
Senior registrar	21,185-26,810	20,080-25,405
Consultant	37,905-48,945	35,930-48,380
Snr medical/dental officer	39,105	37,085
Associate specialist	22,475-30,105	21,310-27,085
Community clinical dental staff		
Dental officer	18,485-27,155	17,520-25,740
Senior dental officer	27,155-36,715	25,740-34,800
Community dental staff		
Dental health trainee	18,385-26,810	17,440-25,405
Asst district dental officer	30,045-38,805	28,480-36,780
Public health medicine staff		
Trainee	18,385-26,810	17,440-25,405
Consultant	37,905-48,945	35,930-48,380
Community health staff		
Clinical medical officer	19,385-26,855	18,380-25,555
Sen clinical medical officer	27,685-36,705	26,225-37,635
Nurses		
Student nurse/midwife	6,820-7,900	6,440-7,450
Grade A	7,000-8,570	6,605-8,100
Grade B	8,900-9,450	7,545-8,230
Grade C	9,450-11,180	8,930-10,570
Grade D	10,820-12,400	10,230-11,720
Grade E	12,400-14,350	11,720-13,570
Grade F	15,750-18,830	12,905-16,920
Grade G	18,200-18,750	15,320-17,735
Grade H	18,100-20,700	17,130-19,585
Grade I	20,050-22,700	18,955-21,470

Unions dismayed at 'penny pinching'

THE proximity of the election meant that the pay awards were greeted sceptically by the opposition parties. Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat health spokesman, said that "nurses and doctors will judge this government when it accepts recommendations in non-election years".

The awards failed to satisfy the nursing and health unions. The health union,

Cohse, described the rises as "mean-minded penny pinching which will hit patient care". The Royal College of Nursing said that nurses would "slip down the pay ladder again".

The higher award for dentists follows evidence to the review that the profession is facing severe problems of recruitment and low morale after years of "accumulating pay decline". The British Dental Association said the award was some recognition of the problems faced, but added: "For the practices that are in trouble it is not nearly enough."

Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow social security secretary, said: "The government are presenting today's increases as a generous gesture to teachers and nurses."

"But they are too shamefaced to announce the pay increases of £800 a week or more, known to be in the pipeline for top civil servants, military officers and judges, but being kept secret until after the election. They are being kept secret, no doubt, for fear of embarrassing John Major and undermining his classless society propaganda."

The Royal College of Midwives was also furious. "The 5.8 per cent award is a bitter disappointment and shows scant regard for the work of nurses and midwives," a spokesman said.

Defence increase aims to keep skilled staff

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S servicemen and women are to receive a pay rise of 5.9 per cent from April 1. The increase, above inflation, is less than last year's, which ranged from 11.5 per cent to 18 per cent.

The increase affects 285,000 service personnel up to, and including, the rank of brigadier. The higher ranks receive a separate award, and military doctors and dentists are covered by the National Health Service pay rises.

The government has agreed once again to pay the increase in full, fearing that a phased rise might provoke skilled personnel to leave the forces.

Warrant officers have been given a bigger rise, of 7.9 per cent. The Royal Navy and RAF equivalent ranks earmarked for the extra 2 per cent are chief petty officer and master aircrew. The

additional money for warrant officers means that the average armed forces pay rise amounts to 6 per cent, compared with 12.2 per cent last year. The rise will cost £274 million.

In recommending the rise, the armed forces pay review body said that the increase

was intended to be sufficiently generous to maintain adequate recruitment and retention of experienced personnel. The rise includes the so-called X factor, which takes into account the various advantages and disadvantages of serving in the forces.

Under the recommended rise, accepted fully by the government, the salary of the lowest-scale private will in-

crease from £7,466 to £7,884. Brigadiers' salaries will rise from £50,003 to £52,808.

Last year, brigadiers received the biggest rise of all, of 18 per cent. Their salary is now only £192 a year below that of major-generals, whose pay increase has been frozen until summer.

Reserve forces will have to wait until next year for a review of bounty payments. The defence ministry has announced the outcome of a review into the reserve forces, but it was published too late to include pay recommendations in time for yesterday's report.

The ministry is expected to announce, later this week, new housing arrangements for the services to enable benefit to be taken from schemes now restricted to civilians. Four frontline RAF squadrons will come under the command of a Luftwaffe general in the latest plans for a Nato rapid reaction air force,

the ministry said yesterday. They will consist of two squadrons of Jaguars from RAF Coltishall, Norfolk, one squadron of Harriers, from RAF Wittering, Cambridgeshire, and a squadron of Tornado GR1As from RAF Marham, Norfolk. The force will also include several German Tornado squadrons and Dutch, Belgian and Norwegian F16 fighter squadrons.

Britain won command of the land component of the rapid reaction force in the face of stiff German opposition and is happy to see a Luftwaffe general take charge of the air arm.

Kuwait's defence minister will today sign a defence agreement with Britain expected to be worth hundreds of millions of pounds to industry. Sheikh Ali Sabah al-Salem al-Sabah will sign a memorandum of understanding, covering equipment sales, joint exercises, planning and training.

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Motorway drivers get new service

BY PETER MULLIGAN

THERE will be more motorway service areas, which could be smaller and more environmentally friendly than at present, under a plan to give greater freedom to private developers, Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Rifkind pledged in the Commons to let the private sector choose sites for service areas. At present, the transport department fixes a site and finds an operator by putting a 30-year lease out to tender.

Mr Rifkind said he was proposing to sell off the 44 existing sites to their operators, and to allow one service

station every ten miles instead of one every 30 miles.

John Prescott, the shadow transport minister, denounced the plan and pledged to reverse it should Labour come to power.

Some MPs were concerned that the green belt might be affected by a greater number of service stations. Mr Rifkind assured them that the normal planning regulations would apply. The environment department is to issue guidance to local authorities. He indicated dissatisfaction with the present system. Motorway services had failed to keep pace with motorway development, he said.

He is considering whether to allow the department the right to ensure minimum standards — such as the length of opening hours and number of parking places — or to allow services to be decided by the market. The proposals have been put out to consultation, which will end by March 20.

"Some new sites in the pipeline are well advanced and will be taken forward under broadly the existing arrangements," Mr Rifkind said. "This will be the quickest way of providing these much-needed services." On other stretches of motorway, although the department has done preliminary work in planning for services, we will now expect the private sector to take the opportunity to fill the gaps.

Mr Rifkind said the move flowed from the announcement of the citizen's charter when the government had declared its wish to see more motorway service areas and greater consumer choice.

Mr Prescott accused him of continuing the "public relations rhetoric" over the charter. Mr Prescott said the decision was "born out of the prime minister's experience at the Happy Eater" — a reference to John Major's surprise stop at a service station while travelling through a snowstorm to the Young Conservatives' conference in Scarborough a year ago.

"This represents a complete handing over of power of the development rights to the developers for the exploitation of the beautiful areas around our motorways, and as the next transport secretary I will not allow it to take place," Mr Prescott said.

For the Liberal Democrats, Ronald Fearn welcomed the move and said that smaller units had been needed for some time.

Matthew Parris, page 16

Labour to spend extra £50m on cancer

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour party is to target the £50 million it would get from abolishing tax relief for private health insurance on improving cancer services, Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, said yesterday.

At a press conference with John Cunningham, Labour's campaign co-ordinator, Mr Cook claimed that the numbers taking out private health insurance had risen by 188 per cent under the Tories. He challenged Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, to prove that the Tories would stop privatising the health service by scrapping tax relief on health insurance for pensioners in the Budget.

Labour would abolish the tax handout and use the £50 million this would save on modernising cancer services, he said. "We will use it to end the disgrace that has left Britain with fewer cancer specialists than other European countries and older cancer equipment than some Third World countries," he said.

Mr Cook said that the gov-



Second opinion: John Cunningham, left, launches Labour's NHS campaign; William Waldegrave, the health secretary, right, fights back in Birmingham

ernment's own survey had shown that a quarter of all dentists did not provide NHS cover for adults and the nursing care of elderly patients was already half-way down the privatisation road.

Harriet Harman, the shadow health spokeswoman, said patients were being driven into private health care as the Tories allowed the NHS to be run down.

Mr Cook gave away few



Fury of Tory surgeon who says reforms killed patient

secrets about his new health document, which is expected to be published soon. He said Labour would repeal NHS trusts, "restore GP fundholders to the same level as other GPs" and abolish an internal market. "There will be no buyers and sellers."

William Waldegrave, the health secretary, told health managers in Birmingham that the number of people waiting for treatment for

more than two years had dropped by 13,822 — from 42,019 last September to 28,197 last December.

Next year health authorities will be given £39 million to tackle waiting lists, the same as this year. Health authorities and NHS trusts have been asked to bid for £4.2 million for quality-of-care projects.

GPs' budgets, page 3

Oil men given protection

BY ROBERT MORGAN

NORTH Sea oil workers worried about breaches of safety rules will be able to make anonymous complaints to the Health and Safety Executive, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, told the Commons yesterday. Legislation would be brought in as soon as possible to give them statutory protection against victimisation, he said.

Mr Howard rejected demands to amend the Offshore Safety Bill to include the provision. Moving the second reading of the bill, he said that protection from victimisation was an employment as opposed to a safety issue, and to introduce it in the bill might delay it. Legislation would be introduced when a suitable vehicle presented itself.

The bill before the House yesterday implements many of the 106 recommendations made by Lord Cullen in his report on the Piper Alpha disaster of July 1988, in which 167 men died after an explosion on the North Sea oil rig. The government has undertaken to implement all Lord Cullen's recommendations.

BR sell-off proposal promised

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS moved yesterday to clear up confusion over the privatisation of British Rail by making it clear that they intend to publish their detailed proposals for the sell-off before the election.

Senior transport department sources said Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, believed that the cabinet committee studying the planned white paper has made "very good progress". They indicated that an announcement would be made before the end of the month.

The debate over BR's future has become bogged down in wrangling between Mr Rifkind and the prime minister. Mr Rifkind has insisted on selling InterCity, the only consistently profitable part of the network, as a going concern. John Major has been arguing for a revival of the old regional railway companies. By the end of last month the two sides appeared to have reached an impasse, with Downing Street sources suggesting that the white paper might be delayed until after the election.



Oil reserve rejected

European Commission proposals to retain more than 90 per cent of British North Sea oil output as part of a strategic oil reserve, disclosed in *The Times* earlier this month, are considered by the government to be preposterous.

Lord Cavendish of Furness, for the government, told the Lords yesterday at question time that such proposals were not worthy of consideration.

Taking cover

Christopher Chope, the roads and traffic minister, is to discuss with the car insurance industry displaying insurance discs on windcreens in an attempt to reduce the number of motorists driving without cover.

Post pledge

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney-general, said he hoped a successor to Barbara Mills, the new Director of Public Prosecutions, as head of the Serious Fraud Office, would be in place by the end of March.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: employment; prime minister. Further and Higher Education Bill, second reading and timetable motion. Lords (2.30): Education (Schools) Bill, second reading.

Bane of the left gives Tories teeth

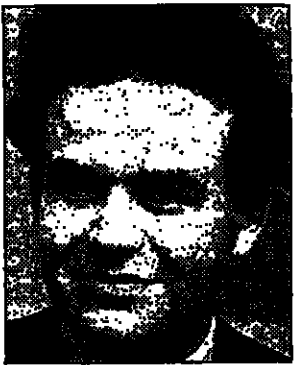
BY ANDREW PIERCE

DR JULIAN Lewis, the Conservative Central Office apparition, who is masterminding the preparation of dossiers on Labour and Liberal Democrat general election candidates, thrives on conspiracy theories.

He proved it soon after his arrival as joint deputy director of the research department in January 1990, trying, in vain, to persuade research department desk officers to shred confidential documents. Dr Lewis, aged 40, does not believe in taking chances: he shreds his newspapers so that no one will know what articles he has cut out. Dr Lewis, a bachelor who drives to work on a powerful motorcycle, had security devices installed in his office, presumably to deter the enemies from within.

The bane of CND, a former infiltrator of the Labour party, who is against all things pacifist, he was hired to give the Tory party teeth. At Central Office some of his new colleagues privately muttered that he made Mrs Thatcher look leftwing. He is described as a loner, and has few interests outside politics, and few friends at Central Office.

Even his enemies concede that Dr Lewis, a friend of the right-wing Freedom Association, provides excellent briefings to ministers on Labour's defence policy. He is a graduate of Balliol and Oxford Conservative Association, and first came to prominence when he joined Newham North East Labour party in 1977 to fight the far left's attempt to deselect Reg Prentice. Writs flew as Dr Lewis exploited Labour's own rule book to gain control of the constituency party. He founded the Coalition



Lewis: shreds his own newspapers for security

for Peace Through Security with Tony Kerpel, Kenneth Baker's right-hand man, and Edward Leigh, now a minister. Its mission in life was to harass CND. When Bruce Kent went on an American peace campaign tour in 1982 a member of Dr Lewis's organisation always arrived before him. Demonstrations marred his every speaking appearance, and the media were briefed about the "communist" priest. In 1982, while playing the national anthem over a march headed by Tony Benn and Arthur Scargill against the Falklands war, Dr Lewis was briefly arrested, but not charged, for breach of the peace.

Dr Lewis, who tried and failed last year to succeed Mrs Thatcher as the party's candidate in Finchley, almost won Swansea West for the Tories in 1983. He laughs at suggestions that he is out to discredit opponents. When he took up his post he said: "I don't go in for sneaking people... But I do show people how easily they can be hoodwinked by the devious minds of the left."

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González vows to wield law against Eta apologists

AS THE Basque terrorist organisation, Eta, set off another car bomb in Spain yesterday, Felipe González, the Spanish prime minister, authorised unprecedentedly tough action against its sympathisers.

He said the terrorists were trying to disrupt Spain's "year of wonders", which includes the Seville Expo 92 — due to open in April — and the Olympic Games in Barcelona. He insisted that the Spanish authorities would ensure the events would take place "in an atmosphere of calm and security" despite "increasingly desperate" attempts by Eta to destabilise Spain.

Leopoldo Torres, the attorney-general, yesterday filed criminal charges against three leading members of Herri Batasuna, the radical Basque separatist party which is widely regarded as the political wing of Eta. One, Jon Idigoras, is a Spanish MP; the second, Floren Aoz, is a regional deputy in Navarre, while the third, Adolfo Araiz, is on the national executive of Herri Batasuna. Señor Idigoras cannot be arrested until his parliamentary immunity is lifted.

A policeman was killed

In an interview with **Richard Owen** and **Frank Smith**, the Spanish prime minister says that Basque guerrillas and their supporters will fail in their attempts to spoil the 1992 festivities

yesterday when a car bomb exploded in the town of Murcia in southeastern Spain, after a telephone call from a man claiming that Eta had planted the bomb outside a civil guard barracks. It was the second such attack by Eta in the past five days. Last Thursday, five people, four of them members of the Spanish army, were blown up in central Madrid.

Since then there has been a growing campaign among opposition parties, including the Popular party led by José María Aznar, for a ban on Herri Batasuna, which acts as an apologist for Eta terrorism.

"1992 is an eventful year for us," Señor González said in an interview with *The Times*. "Despite the fact that the capabilities of the terrorists have been much reduced, they are still trying to

blackmail us." Other regional autonomy movements in Spain were democratic but Eta was still "locked into a spiral of violence".

Señor González denied that he intended to cut off the "oxygen of publicity" by banning Herri Batasuna from making statements to the media, as Margaret Thatcher had done with Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA. But he had asked the legal authorities "to prosecute all those who defend terrorism or issue terrorist threats. These are crimes under the constitution." He said that France, which is accused by Spanish opposition politicians of failing to pursue Basque terrorists on the Franco-Spanish border, was doing "a great deal to help us".

As Expo '92 and the games approach, Señor González is under pressure to deal not only with terrorism but also with official corruption, which critics say

is tarnishing the image of Spain just as it is thrust into the international spotlight.

Cardinal Enrique Tarancón, a much respected figure in the Spanish Catholic church, recently declared that corruption was now more rife than it had been under Franco.

Señor González, angered by the accusation, yesterday dismissed the cardinal's remarks as "mistaken". Last month, one of Señor González' cabinet colleagues, Julián García Valverde, the former health minister, resigned after allegations of financial mismanagement during his time as chairman of the state railway.

Just over a year ago, Alfonso Guerra, the deputy prime minister, left the government after one of the most protracted political scandals in modern Spanish life, involving Señor Guerra's brother, who was alleged to have peddled political influence. But, according to Señor González, "cases of corruption here are no greater than in any other democratic country". He added: "What lies behind all this is not a desire to see political life in Spain cleaned up. It is a reflection of the exasperation of the opposition parties, who real-



González determined to outflank terrorists in Spain's "year of wonders"

ise that they have little chance of coming to power."

Now nearly 50, Señor González has been prime minister for ten years, and his Socialist party has dominated Spanish political life for the past decade. He has

become a dominant European figure, but has occasionally shown weariness with Spanish politics. His critics, including much of the Spanish press, maintain that he spends more time tending his remarkable collection of

bonsai trees at the Mondoa complex, his well-guarded residence on the outskirts of Madrid, than in defending his policies to the Cortes, the Spanish parliament. Yesterday Señor González insisted that although the Cortes has

no equivalent of question time, "I put in more hours in parliament than any of my European colleagues, including the British prime minister".

The country's real problem was that the right-wing opposition was "incapable of forming a credible alternative". Señor González denied that he intended to call a general election this year (the poll is not due until 1993) to capitalise on Spain's "year of wonders". He said the Spanish economy, which has an annual growth rate of 2.5 per cent, would grow further next year, coinciding with the implementation of the European single market.

He was confident that Spain, often thought of as one of the poorer EC members, would meet the criteria agreed at Maastricht for economic and monetary convergence in the EC by 1997. But he insisted — with a grin — that he had no intention of abandoning Spanish politics to become president of the European Commission in succession to Jacques Delors.

"If asked, I would refuse," he said, even though this would no doubt surprise "many of my colleagues in Europe".

EC to review British rebate

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

TODAY'S launch of the European Commission's plans for the next five years may reopen the issue of Britain's special budget deal with Brussels which paralysed Community business for several years during the prime ministership of Margaret Thatcher.

The Commission will today decide its outline ideas for financing the new powers agreed in the Maastricht treaty and the 12 governments will then argue about the final figures until at least the end of the year. Tomorrow's plan will be followed by more detailed Commission reports — one of which will open the question of Britain's "rebate", which reduces its contribution to EC coffers.

Commission officials have been debating privately when to release the later report, which will reopen the arguments of the 1980s in which Mrs Thatcher successfully insisted on altering the Community budget system in Britain's favour. The new budget will make at least three countries — France, Denmark and Italy — net contributors. These governments may press for Britain's unique budget privilege to be removed and the subject could cause difficulties before the general election.

Brussels wants to raise its spending by about 30 per cent in five years. Jacques Delors, the Commission's president, will suggest that next year's budget of £47 billion grows by about £15 billion between now and 1997.

The Community, M Delors will tell the European parliament tomorrow, will have to spend more to reform the expensive common agricultural policy (CAP), subsidise the poorer Mediterranean economies, and beef up its foreign policy. The Delors plan covers everything from £20 billion of spending on poor regions to financing Community programmes to assist the "flowering" of national cultures.

French and German politicians are belatedly aware that talks with America on world trade may fail to achieve liberalisation — particularly in food — and that Europe will suffer. Community farm ministers yesterday began another session devoted to farm reform but without any sign that agreement is close or that American anxiety is pushing the ministers any faster.

Quayle talks, page 10



Delors: wants more spent on CAP reforms

PARIS NOTEBOOK by Philip Jacobson

Pulling strings is way of life

When President Mitterrand's personal physician was nominated for a high and rewarding post in France's social security administration, the medical establishment nodded sagely and murmured the magic word *piston*. He may have been no more than a general practitioner, but proximity to power has its rewards when it comes to the ancient art of pulling strings.

Pistonage also paid off for a Parisian journalist whose cherished only son was called up to his military service in the wilds of eastern France. Through his wife, he knew a senior official in the defence ministry; a telephone call or two were made, a favour or two called in, and the young man was magically transferred to a regiment garrisoned on the outskirts of Paris.

So it goes with *pistonage*, and you will find precious few French ready to condemn outright what the magazine *L'Événement du Jeudi* aptly defines as "putting a drop of oil on the cogs". After all, it exists — some would say thrives — at every level of French society.

According to a new book on *La France du Piston*, it is no longer considered bad form to raise the subject in

polite society, or even to let others know of one's own inside contacts. When the true professionals of string-pulling boast about how they "fixed" an appointment of state, why on earth conceal the fact that your next door neighbour knows a man at Orly airport who can always slip a friend on to overbooked flights?

Among the examples of creative string-pulling offered by the journal there is the case of Jacques Séguéla, an advertising wizard who is generally acknowledged as France's top political "spin doctor". Before the 1981 presidential election campaign, he promised to work for nothing for the Socialists, provided that a victorious Mitterrand would ensure that all government ministers were driven around in Citroëns — M Séguéla's biggest clients.

As for the perennial issue of enrolling children in the right Parisian lycée — an undertaking almost impossible without *piston* — it will not have surprised cynics to discover that a semi-official tariff exists. The lycée Fénelon gladly accepted the daughter of the distinguished film maker, Louis Malle, provided he was on hand to address its cinema society.

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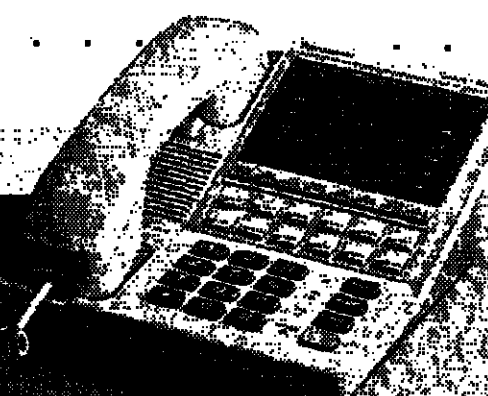
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White House welcomes Quayle mission

UK poised to reject trade and Nato link

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

BUSH administration officials reacted with rare enthusiasm yesterday to the performance of the "Dan Quayle political all-stars" team playing in Europe at the weekend. While the rest of their countrymen focused on the disappointments of the winter Olympics, there was pleasure in the White House that the diplomatic vice-president, backed by some hard men from the US Senate, had played so tough a game against the Nato Europeans.

Mr Quayle, who flew into London last night, will hold talks today with John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and both are likely to tell him that Britain, together with its European partners, strongly rejects any linkage between the Gatt trade talks and the American presence in Nato.

"Europe has to get the message," one senior adviser said in Washington. "There is an undercurrent of pressure here which could become a tidal wave. Either there is no American military presence or, if we are going to stay, we want the free trade and economic growth that will allow us to do so."

Trade was a security issue, Mr Quayle told the annual Munich conference on security policy, discarding his prepared speech and calling for an urgent completion of the Gatt round for reducing trade barriers. Mr Quayle, reflecting White House policy, said that America would not jump on the "isolationist bandwagon".

Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, a staunch friend of Nato, spoke of how "the trends towards isolationism and protectionism are very strong". General John Galvin, Nato's commander, said that time was short if Europe wanted to show US primary voters that it wanted a visible American force.

"In the past, this good-cop, bad-cop tactic has failed," a senior State Department ne-

gociator admitted yesterday. "The Europeans have always seen it as election-year bluff." But today Washington hopes that the message will get through. "This is uncharted territory and we cannot predict what the result will be."

The "trade is security" threat is not an easy game for America to play. The general "America first" message is loudly sounded and appreciated this year. It is claimed by left and right, conservative Democrats such as the Virginia governor, Douglas Wilder, old-fashioned liberals, such as Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, and right-



Quayle: emphasis on trade as security issue

wing Republicans led today by Patrick Buchanan, the presidential challenger. In itself that says little. Few voters anywhere would reject a notion that their country be put before others, particularly when a recession is strong and a long-time foreign adversary has just laid down and died.

Further troop withdrawals from Europe are also almost universally popular. The current White House plan is for 150,000 troops to remain in Europe, but there is little support for that figure in Congress and little expectation in the Pentagon that it will be maintained. When senators describe the trend of support for halving that number, they are telling the truth.

Opposition to the foreign aid budget can also be guaranteed to win applause at the hustings. When money is short, everyone wants it in his

own pocket rather than the pocket of someone whose country he has never heard of. Trade protectionism, however, is much more controversial. Mr Quayle was right to point out the failure of past protectionist campaigns in American politics.

Americans want to put their country first. But they are not convinced that shutting the door to other countries' products is the way to achieve that aim. Mr Buchanan has found that the "protectionist" label is a lead weight around his neck. He now calls himself an "economic hawk", a phrase suggesting attacks on other people's markets rather than defence of one's own.

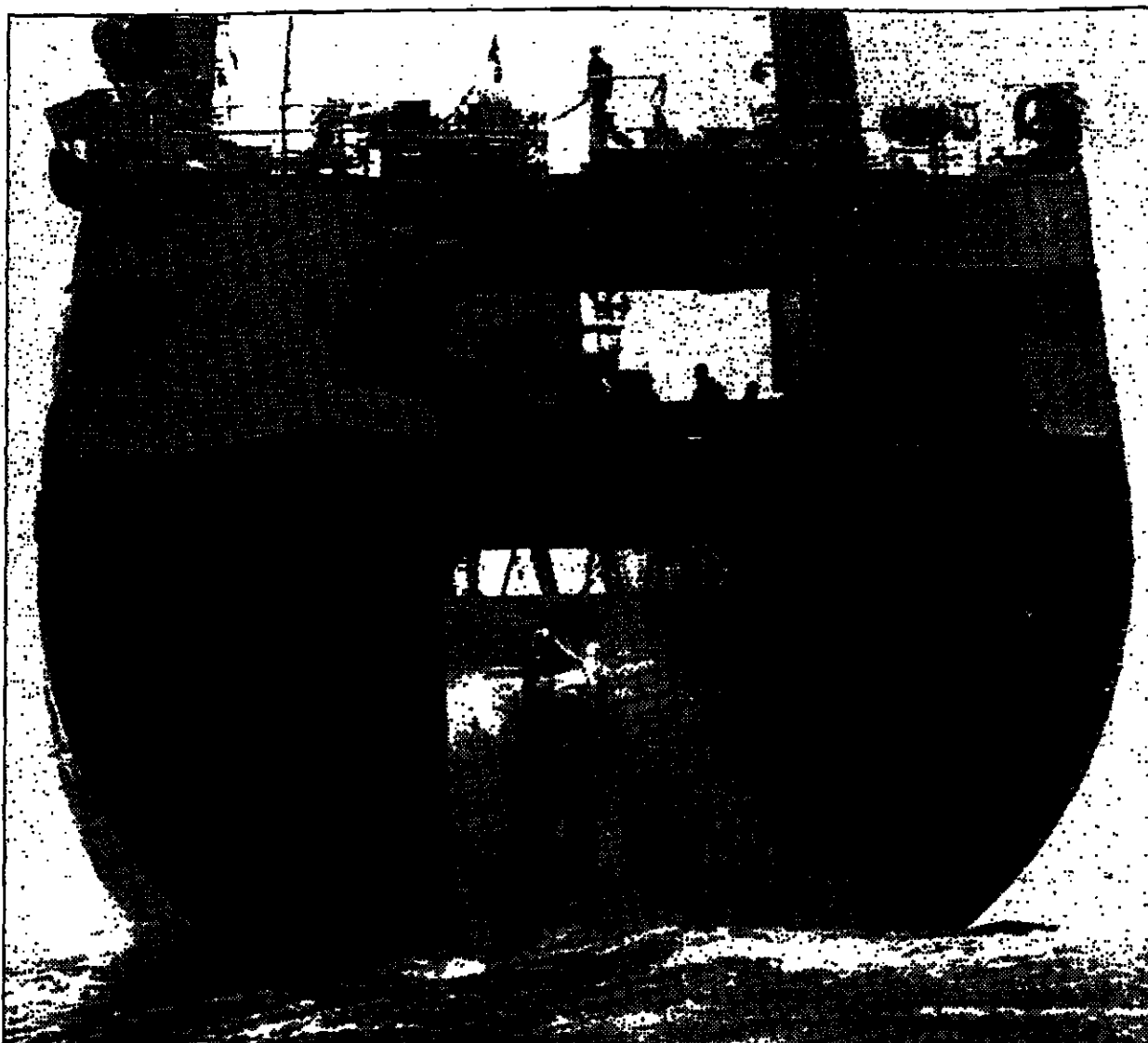
The free-market campaign of Paul Tsongas has now brought the previously obscure former senator from Massachusetts to the brink of a New Hampshire victory.

The administration is getting increasingly angry that its determination to achieve freer markets, most importantly through the Gatt round, is meeting so little response in Europe. Officials feel cheated by German half-promises made at the time of unification that agricultural subsidies within the EC would be reduced.

American troops in Europe are the one lever which Washington has. The White House hopes that, by describing the pressures to withdraw them completely and its own determination to withstand the pressure, it can make progress where progress has been so hard to make in the past.

During his London talks, Mr Quayle is also likely to report on his visit to the Baltic states, and will tell Mr Major about his meeting with Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor.

The attempt to station UN troops in Yugoslavia will be a main topic. Mr Major and Mr Quayle will probably also look at their countries' next moves in trying to force Libya to hand over the two men named as responsible for the bombing of the Pan Am plane over Lockerbie.



Weighty evidence: a Japanese ship hauling aboard a Minke whale in the Atlantic. A Greenpeace vessel docked in Fremantle, Western Australia, after weeks monitoring Japanese catches, which may violate international law

Egypt arrests plot suspects

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

EGYPT claimed yesterday to have uncovered a plot linked to the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood to overthrow the moderate government of President Mubarak and replace it with one run on fundamentalist lines.

The announcement quoted Muhammad Abdel-Halim Moussa, the interior minister, as saying that the three alleged ringleaders were under arrest. He said the three belonged to a larger group linked to the Brotherhood which, though banned, has in recent years been tolerated by the authorities. Last week, a court thwarted the movement's attempt to have its activities legalised.

The ruling kept the Brotherhood in a state of legal limbo at a time when Egypt is

worried not only about the spread of fundamentalism in North Africa, but also its growth in neighbouring Sudan, which Iran is transforming into a base for its revolutionary activities.

The minister said foreign finance was provided for the plot, and a Cairo research company conducting opinion polls on such sensitive issues as rising prices had been used as a cover. Opposition sources said police raids on the company discovered documents showing that militants involved in the plot had received weapons training in Afghanistan. The alleged plot, considered by Arab security officials to have been the most serious in a number of attempts to destabilise the Arab world's most populous nation in recent months, was seen as a spillover of the widening unrest in Algeria.

While the Liberal Democratic party, which has held uninterrupted power for almost 40 years, is in no danger of having to concede control to any of Japan's unruly and unprepared opposition parties.

Writing in the opposition daily *al-Wafd*, organ of the right-wing Wafd party, Ibrahim Abaza said: "If free elections were held in Egypt, the fate of the regime and the ruling National Democratic party [led by Mr Mubarak] would be the same as that met by the Algerian regime and the [ruling] National Liberation Front." President Mubarak last week ruled out opposition demands for a new, more democratic constitution in Egypt.

Japanese leader heads for fall

BY JOANNA PITMAN

KIICHI Miyazawa, the Japanese prime minister, is said to have wept in 1987 when he lost the job to Noboru Takeshita. Today, three months into his longed-for premiership, Mr Miyazawa may well be on verge of tears again.

On Sunday, Nobuhara Enoki, his Liberal Democratic party candidate, suffered a humiliating by-election defeat in the party's traditional stronghold of Nara, in western Japan, at the hands of Yukihisa Yoshida, who was supported jointly by three socialist opposition parties. Mr Yoshida won an easy victory after a campaign in which he successfully mined a seam of popular discontent, attracting votes of protest against a prime minister whose image is being smeared daily with new allegations of corruption scandals in the LDP.

While the Liberal Democratic party, which has held uninterrupted power for almost 40 years, is in no danger of having to concede control to any of Japan's unruly and unprepared opposition parties.



Miyazawa: being seen as another stand-in

ties. Mr Miyazawa is increasingly being viewed as yet another stand-in prime minister, inhibited by a lack of individual power, like Toshiki Kaifu, the former prime minister.

With two more spring elections to get through and a general election to the upper house of the Diet (parliament) in July, Mr Miyazawa will surprise many if he manages to notch up a full year at the top. Some analysts believe he has become such a liability that he will be replaced before the July election.

Keigo Ouchi, the chairman of the opposition Democratic Socialist party, told a press conference at the weekend that the opposition parties may jointly present a motion of no confidence against the cabinet, a move which he said could lead the power brokers in the LDP, Shin Kanemaru and Mr Takeshita, to bring down the prime minister.

Mr Miyazawa may have vaunted his internationalist views, his linguistic skills, his intelligence and his rich cabinet experience as qualifications for his post, but such qualities count for little in Japanese politics. It is becoming increasingly apparent that he is another figurehead with scant executive powers of his own.

He appears to lack the vital *jiyaku* (personal network of contacts and supporters) within the LDP and in the nation's powerful lobby groups that would enable him to pull strings and get things done in the domestic political arena. The three months that Mr Miyazawa has been in office have been characterised by deadlock and disaster.

Islamic radicals blamed for unrest

Tunis: Violations of the law by the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front are behind the decision to ban the party, Algeria's military-backed rulers said yesterday (Alfred Hermida writes). They have accused the front of instigating violence which led to the imposition of a 12-month state of emergency this week.

Calm has now returned to Algeria after a weekend of violence and troops are reported to have withdrawn from fundamentalist strongholds in Algiers, the capital. At least 40 people were killed. Under the emergency, the authorities can arrest anyone considered a threat to public order and bring them before a military court.

Leading article, page 13

Saddam scorns 'butcher' Bush

Cairo: Baghdad described President Bush as history's third most notorious butcher, after Nero and Hulegu, 13th century Asian invader who terrorised Iraq (Christopher Walker writes).

It said he should stick to selling cars to Japan instead of plotting to overthrow President Saddam Hussein. The riposte followed reports that America had sent Robert Gates, the CIA chief, on a clandestine Middle East tour to bring pressure against Saddam before the first anniversary this month of the end of the Gulf war.

Top HIV star bounces back

New York: Marvin "Magic" Johnson, the basketball star and the best-known American to disclose HIV infection before developing symptoms, made a comeback at the National Basketball Association's annual All-Star game (James Bone writes).

Before tens of millions of television viewers and a packed stadium, Johnson scored a game-record 25 points to take his Western Conference team to a 153-113 point victory over the Eastern Conference.

Aids myth, page 12

Doctor on trial

New York: Cecil Jacobson, aged 55, a doctor who called himself "the baby-maker", has gone on trial in Virginia on charges of artificially inseminating dozens of women with his own sperm instead of from donors resembling the patients' husbands.

Haitian ordeal

Washington: Haitian refugees have told American officials that they were persecuted after being forcibly returned to Haiti by the US Coast Guard last autumn. But some of them fled again and have been allowed to apply for US asylum. (AP)

Envoy's visit

Jakarta: Indonesia is to allow a United Nations special envoy, the Kenyan attorney general, Amos Wako, to visit East Timor, where soldiers shot scores of civilians mourning a separatist last November. (Reuters)

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Lawyers spar over Tyson image

Defence and prosecution lawyers yesterday imploded the jury in Indianapolis to believe starkly contrasting portraits of Mike Tyson, one depicting the boxer as the victim of an over-achieving young temptress, and the other casting him as a criminal who set out to trap a starstruck young teenager.

Desiree Washington may be young in years, but she was not young in her experience. Vincent Fuller, the boxer's defender, said of the woman who accused him of rape, an 18-year-old scholarship-winning student and beauty queen. "Mr Tyson is not a trained prize-fighter, he's a high school drop-out, he doesn't possess analytical skills," Mr Fuller said in his closing argument. It was an insult to the jury's intelligence, he said, to be asked to believe that Ms Washington could get into the boxer's car, kiss him on the mouth, as she acknowledged doing, and "not know what's coming."

But summing up for the prosecution after two weeks of trial, Barbara Trathen denounced the former world heavyweight champion as a "wolf in sheep's clothing" who had used his celebrity to lure Ms Washington to his hotel

The jury is being presented with two starkly contrasting portraits of the boxer — victim or criminal — writes Charles Bremner from Indianapolis

room at 2am in Indianapolis last July. "It's not merely close acquaintance rape. It's rape as the statutes describe it. There's no halfway crime here. I ask you to find him guilty as charged on all counts," Ms Trathen said. The fate of Ms Washington had been sealed the moment she was persuaded to get into Tyson's car in the early morning last July 19. "It was almost as if she had no will, this child who thought that she was going out on a date with her father's hero," she said.

Ms Trathen made much of the high esteem Tyson was held in Ms Washington's family and as a role model for black America, an element which has reached far beyond the trial, provoking anguished discussion across the country about the morals of celebrities. "Why would an 18-year-old, whose father idolised the defendant, have anything to worry about. This was not a date with a teenager from her hometown, who might be trying to get a cheap feel in the back of a Chevrolet.

This was Mike Tyson." Speaking colloquially as a local Indiana woman, she cut a contrasting figure with Mr Fuller, a loud-voiced elderly East Coast lawyer who drew flutters in the court when he poured scorn on Ms Washington's claim that she had expected to go sightseeing with Tyson when she got into his car. "Where does one go sightseeing at two in the morning in Indianapolis?" asked Mr Fuller incredulously in a remark that was hardly likely to endear him to the eight men and four women of the jury.

Despite what Ms Trathen said about acquaintance rape, the Tyson case is being depicted by legal experts and feminists as an important test of the ability of prosecutors to win convictions of sexual assault purely on the word of a woman. Tyson, a man who accumulated \$200 million (£111 million) in his brief career as a boxing prodigy, could face a possible maximum term of 60 years and a likely end to his fighting career if convicted.

In practice, most rapists in Indiana are sentenced to about seven years in prison and are released after four. His lawyers have already said they would appeal against a conviction.

With little physical evidence, the verdict will boil down to a simple question of credibility, a fact that both sides hammered home to the jury yesterday. For Mr Fuller, there was too much conflict in Ms Washington's own account and much room for doubt in her claim that she had been attacked suddenly, while sitting on the boxer's bed. But the prosecution hammered home the credibility of witnesses who said the young woman was in a state of shock immediately after leaving the boxer's room.

Ms Trathen ridiculed the boxer's claim that he walked up to Ms Washington at a rehearsal for the Miss Black America pageant and told her simply, "I want you. I want to see you." His stated use of the "I-word" has dominated argument in the closing days of the trial. Tyson's lawyers have based their case on the notion that the boxer displayed such an obscene approach to women that Ms Washington could have been left in no doubt as to his intentions.

Burmese troops close in on rebel compounds

Karens defy junta call to surrender

FROM NEIL KELLY IN MANERPLAW, BURMA

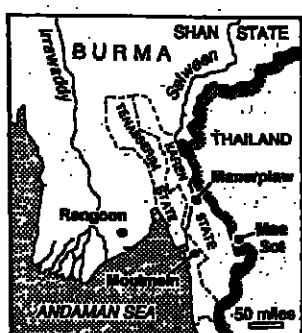
SIX miles to the west of the Salween river, 2,500 Karen guerrillas are blocking the advance of 7,000 Burmese troops on Manerplaw, where the pro-democracy rebels have had their headquarters for nearly 20 years. The Burmese have never come so close before. Burma's alternative government set up by elected politicians driven into the jungle by the Rangoon junta is also based here.

Military leaders are telling the people on television and radio that the new offensive which they call Operation Dragon King is the final step towards smashing the Karen rebellion. Fearing air attacks some civilian families have left Manerplaw but morale is high among those still here. They are confident of holding on at least for another year.

Burmese offensives are an annual event in this area but this time they are using many more troops. The armed forces have almost doubled their manpower in the past four years. They have bought heavy weapons costing more than £588 million from China. The Karens say they have seen Chinese officers advising the Burmese at artillery bases near Manerplaw.

Despite those advantages the Burmese have had to abandon their original plan for crossing the Salween and have been unable to capture Sleeping Dog Peak, the top of a huge ridge towering above the river. From there they could bombard Manerplaw.

The Karens have surrounded a Burmese company of about 100 men below the ridge and are inflicting heavy casualties. General Bo Mya, the Karens' elected leader, said they had killed more than 130 soldiers in the past five weeks and wounded about 600. Karen casualties were 20 killed and 75 wounded. Thai intelligence sources



are unable to confirm those numbers but say Burmese casualties have been heavy. General Bo Mya said all democratic forces in Burma now supported the Karens. "We will hold Manerplaw," he said. "We are struggling for freedom so it is our duty to defend our headquarters." The Karens who have been fighting for more than 40 years to maintain their own state, language and culture are willing to negotiate and to be part of a Burmese federation but Rangoon's military leaders demand surrender.

Karen leaders say the attitude of Thailand will be crucial to the outcome of the battle for Manerplaw. If Burmese forces were to cross into Thailand to attack from that side Manerplaw which is protected on its other flanks by rivers and mountains would probably be doomed. The Thais have just strengthened their border forces and Burmese soldiers stopped building a bridge across the Moei river marking the border with Thailand after Bangkok threatened to use force if work continued.

Operation Dragon King has been marked by some of the worst atrocities committed by the Burmese junta. Many of the 15,000-20,000 men and women rounded up to carry ammunition and other supplies for the army have died in the past two months from exhaustion, ill-treat-

ment and illness, according to more than 100 of them who escaped. Some committed suicide. Soldiers promised Maung Thwe, a bus driver aged 47, that he could take anything he wanted from Manerplaw after it was captured in March. After carrying ammunition for two months he is a cripple. His lungs have been damaged by blows from rifle butts and his back is raw and scarred by heavy loads he carried up mountain tracks.

Thousands of women have been forced to work as porters by day and to sleep with soldiers at night. Khin Khin Soe, an Arakanese flower seller aged 20, said sometimes she had no food or water for 24 hours at a time while carrying ammunition and soldiers' packs weighing more than 50lb. Naw Wah Wah, aged 17, was collecting firewood when soldiers took her away. "I had to carry four mortar bombs which were so heavy I could hardly keep them on my back," she said.



Caught in conflict: a Burmese porter taking shelter in a tent after fleeing to a Karen camp

Kashmir march is blocked

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MUZAFFARABAD

PAKISTAN brought in the army, paramilitary forces, police and bulldozers yesterday in response to an unprecedented challenge to its authority on its side of Kashmir. It used dynamite to block roads, halted busloads of people, and reinforced the border with India on the eve of a planned suicide march today by separatist leaders.

The moves were matched by India, which laid mines along the frontier on the route of the march.

Islamabad's backing for the anti-Indian uprising in the Kashmir valley is clearly starting to spill over to so-called "Azad" (free) Kashmir on the Pakistan side. This was evident in the small city of Muzaffarabad last night when 5,000 chanting Pakistani Kashmiris, some with Kalashnikovs, called for a re-united Kashmir independent of Pakistan and India. The rally, the first of its kind in Pakistan, was organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, which launched the secessionist movement on the Indian side of Kashmir three years ago.

PEOPLE

Hammer to fall on 'bodyline' diaries

THE late Sir George "Gubby" Allen's cricketing collection, including letters, photographs and diaries relating to the infamous "bodyline" Test series, is to be auctioned next month.

Allen was one of England's battery of fast-bowlers on the 1932-3 tour but was reluctant to bowl to the hostile "leg theory" ordered by captain Douglas Jardine. Among the items up for sale are 24 letters written to his parents during the tour, in which he talks of friction with Jardine. "Douglas changes his mind every five minutes. He is difficult and whines away if he doesn't get everything he wants."

Much of the collection relates to Allen's six years as chairman of selectors, including Len Hutton's letter announcing his retirement, and a gold wristwatch inscribed "England versus Australia, Lord's 1930, from Board of Control." The auction takes place in Newbury.

Barry Goldwater, aged 83, the conservative Republican beaten by Lyndon Johnson in the 1964 American presidential election, has married Susan Shaffer Wechsler, aged 51, the manager of a

home nursing service, in a private ceremony at her home in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The rock 'n' roll star Jerry Lee Lewis says he will give up one-night shows and start a new club named after him in Memphis, his home base. "I am tired of toting that load all by myself," he says.

Michael Jackson's white sequined glove sold for \$1,000 (£550) during an auction of Jackson family belongings seized from a storage locker for non-payment of storage costs.

John Major has told a distraught ten-year-old Arsenal fan that he cannot order a replay after Wrexham knocked the Gunners out of the FA Cup. Mr Major told Dean Wyatt that "sometimes the little guys have to beat the big boys."

The Queen is increasing admission charges for tourists to Sandringham House and grounds by 30p. Adults will now have to pay £2.50, pensioners £2 and children £1.50.

Delhi press has a royal gush

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

MORE than four decades has passed since a statue of King George V was removed from its prime spot at the end of the broad sweep of Rajpath in British-built New Delhi and deposited in a graveyard for sculpture in the farthest northern suburbs, there to grow green with mould in a small park along with Queen Victoria and a large collection of other Raj images.

India chose not to smash them up, and to this day a couple of desultory chowkidars lounge around on



Barefoot homage: the princess at the wreath-laying for Mahatma Gandhi

charpays brewing chai and shooing away potential vandals. At night they lock the tall gates of a walled and fenced compound to protect the cracked and stained relics. It is an odd ritual: it shows that the past is not entirely despised.

One of the enigmas of India is its lack of rancour over British rule. In Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, there are still statues aplenty from British times, exactly where they were left in Au-

gust 1947. This tolerance, blending with an abiding curiosity about the Raj, explains the phenomenal gushing in the Indian English-language press over this week's visit by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

On their arrival yesterday, the royal couple was driven swiftly to the presidential palace, Rashtrapati Bhawan, the home of the last viceroys of India, where they were greeted by Shankar Dayal Sharma, the vice-president, who is their host during their official six-day tour. They later laid wreaths at the Raj Ghat, where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated after his assassination in 1948. At a banquet at the former palace of the Nawab of Hyderabad, now converted into a government guest house, the vice-president said Britain had traditionally been one of the biggest investors in India.

The prince is taken very seriously in India. The Times of India set the ball rolling with a long article on Sunday, filed from London, accompanied by a friendly cartoon. The paper also published an official photograph of the couple. The English-language press is inclined to be positive about the visit: there is even a sense that the prince, with his talk of the soul and the cosmos, is at home in the East.

The Times of India reckoned that there was no place more appropriate for the prince. "India is relevant to his campaign for creating awareness about contemporary concerns in the areas of education, health, housing, transport, town planning, ecology, and economic justice," L. K. Sharma, its London correspondent, said. "The Indian experience is to be part of his ceaseless exploration. His connection with India is also linked through the memory of Lord Mountbatten... a major influence in young Charles's life."

India retains much more of the British flavour than Pakistan. The princess barely got a mention in the press when she visited Pakistan a few months ago, except when there was a controversy over the clothes she wore in a mosque. But then, India feels the past more keenly.

Leading article, page 13

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A RACE APART

Woodrow Wyatt

The republican tide will soon be in retreat

A conservatively estimated 16 million in Britain watched the whole of 110 minutes of Elizabeth R on BBC1 last Thursday. In France, 14 million watched, more than the audience for the football World Cup final in 1990, and in excess of 400 million are expected to see Elizabeth R worldwide. The monarchy hardly seems to be tottering inevitably and speedily to its last days, as many wisecracks and soothsayers would have us believe.

Professor Cannadine in last Saturday's *Financial Times* wrote that it is "difficult to envisage a serious role for the British royal house in any tighter form of continental federation". But the prospect of a European federal union with one central government grows daily more remote as the Germans and the French turn against it. Britain anyway would stubbornly veto it. Agreement with professor Cannadine comes mainly from lacklustre defeatism which sees Britain ever dwindling in importance, a cipher on the world stage vainly struggling to ingratiate itself. There is an assumption that Scotland will secede from the UK, to be followed by Wales and Northern Ireland, leaving the Queen sovereign only in England. Actually the Queen, with her Scottish connections, is the best guarantee of the package holding together.

Oh, but the expense. And why doesn't she pay income tax? The civil list, fixed at an average £7.9 million a year until 2000, and not inflation indexed, is less than the German president gets. It covers not merely the Queen's expenses on duty but those of the royal family closest to the throne: the expenses of others keenly sought after for public functions are paid by the Queen from her own pocket. Her supposedly fabulous wealth consists principally of palaces, art collections, crown jewels and so forth, on which she cannot raise any cash but keeps in trust for her successors.

Twenty years ago, before a Commons select committee on the civil list, Lord Cobbold, the lord chamberlain, satisfactorily explained that her private fortune had been ludicrously exaggerated. The probable figure could be deduced at around £20 million. If her advisers had made wise investments, this could now be a tidy sum. But the Queen has had to spend capital and income on items such as Sandringham and Balmoral (annual running costs £1 million). On January 25 the financially shrewd *Economist* estimated her yearly private income at from £1 million to £5 million. Any income tax paid would not exceed £2 million and almost certainly be somewhat less.

The monarch's personal private estates were surrendered in return for the civil list in 1760. In 1991 they made a profit of £61 million. If the Queen, giving up the civil list, asked for them back and paid tax at the highest rate, her disposable income would be £37 million, nearly five times as much as she is paid for her necessary expenses as head of state. True, sovereigns incur no death duties. But tax planning trusts preserve vast fortunes for the Westminsters and other multi-millionaires.

We rapidly tired of republicanism under Cromwell and would do so if it emerged again. Despite reservations about a few unimportant junior royals and false media statements about the Queen's riches, it is clear that the public treasures the monarchy. A change to the periodic election of an elderly politician makes no appeal, nor does the suggestion that the monarchy should be humbler and less glamorous. The US has its flag and its president, but only we can impress the world with the splendid panoply surrounding our sovereign. The world envies us and holds us in far higher respect than it would otherwise. Why change to something inferior?

Evidence of an epidemic among heterosexuals has been proved to be a medical myth, says James Le Fanu

Pointless panic on Aids



Misconceived? An advert directed at 'straights'

The "heterosexual Aids epidemic" promised for so long by medical experts, consistently warned against by ministers of health, and the justification for a dozen explicit health education campaigns, is a myth.

Rumours to this effect have been around for some time, but now we have it in writing. In an unexcitingly titled letter to *The Lancet*, "HIV Sero prevalence among women attending antenatal clinics in London", Junga Banarvala, professor of virology at St Thomas's Hospital, tells us that out of 4,097 women tested in 1990 only one was found to be infected with the Aids virus who did not already belong to a recognised "at risk" group. This confirms it is biologically possible (though not easy) for HIV to be transmitted by heterosexual intercourse, but with a prevalence rate of 0.04 per cent there is not an "epidemic", nor will there be — not today, not tomorrow, or ever.

To understand the proper significance of this finding we have to go back to 1988, when it was decided to test anonymously women attending antenatal clinics to assess the two great uncertainties about HIV: how far had it penetrated among heterosexuals, and how rapidly was it spreading. In the first year, one in 2,000 tested positive, but by the first quarter of 1991 this figure had leapt to one in 500. The actual numbers were small, but the implications of this four-fold increase in such a short period seemed obvious: as the experts had warned, HIV was spreading like wildfire; everyone was at risk; the most casual of sexual encounters were potentially lethal. In June last year Sir Donald Acheson, the chief medical officer, talked of an "alarming increase with deeply disturbing implications for everybody", and *The Lancet* promised "our figures will soon reach those of New York and other American cities".

The only note of scepticism was struck by doctors working in venereal disease clinics, whose impression was that heterosexual Aids remained almost exclusively an affliction of those known to be "at risk" — drug users and African immigrants. Might the increase have occurred only among these groups?

Professor Banarvala decided to re-examine details of those whose positive tests had given rise to the alarm and found that more than three-quarters were of African origin. Additionally, because in almost all of these cases the stored blood showed evidence of malarial antibodies, they had almost certainly recently arrived in this country. The rest were intravenous drug users, with the solitary exception already noted.

Last year's alarmist warning from Sir Donald Acheson and other health pundits might be forgiven were it a single error, an over-hasty interpretation of a set of ostensibly worrying figures. But it was not and, more culpably, Sir Donald was in a position to put the figures in context, just as Professor Banarvala has done, but chose not to. To this extent the "heterosexual Aids epidemic" can properly be described as a hoax, because right from the beginning it has been sustained by a selection and editing of the relevant statistics to create the maximum alarm and despondency. Here are a few selected highlights.

The Centre for Disease Surveillance and Control, responsible for collecting Aids statistics, has always presented them in an unusual way. It is medical custom to portray the pattern of any infectious disease as a number of new cases each year, thus making it easy to determine how fast it is spreading. The CDC, quite uniquely, gives the number of Aids cases as a cumulative total, adding each year's figure to that of the previous one. To the uninitiated it appears that the Aids epidemic is relentlessly taking off into the stratosphere.

Some statistical sleights of hands have been at work, too, in mapping out the future scale of the epidemic. In 1988 the Department of Health looked into its crystal ball and by "extrapolating from current trends" foretold 30,000 new cases a year by 1992, a figure it has subsequently had to revise vigorously downwards. As there are likely to be just over 1,000 new cases of Aids this year, the 1988 predictions can be seen to have exaggerated by a mere 30-fold. The implications at the time, however, seemed fearful: Aids was about to "go heterosexual", and it was in that direction that the Health Education Authority, bolstered by a big increase in funding, turned the main focus of its propaganda

offences, at the expense of trying to prevent the spread of the disease among drug users and homosexuals.

Then in 1990 the public was warned that the Aids epidemic was "spreading faster among heterosexuals than any other group", and indeed between 1989 and 1990 the number of new cases kept an "alarming" 100 per cent, which indeed appeared a lot more than the mere 30 per cent among homosexuals. But "percentage increase changes" depend on where one is coming from, and will always be highest when starting from a low level. This was the basis of the misleading statistical interpretation. For women, the rise in absolute numbers was from 49 to 88, while for male homosexuals it was from 655 to 947, certainly less in percentage terms by numerically much greater.

The Aids industry (for that is what it has become) has always had two contradictory explanations for the failure of the heterosexual Aids epidemic to arrive. First it has argued that the propaganda campaigns have successfully altered people's behaviour, thus nipping the epidemic in the bud. This is unlikely. Second, it argues that HIV has spread widely among heterosexuals, with

already as many as 50,000 infected, and it is only a matter of time before this becomes apparent as clinical Aids cases.

The anonymous testing of women attending antenatal clinics should have substantiated the latter claim, and for a period the results were presented as if they did so, until Professor Banarvala (in the face, I imagine, of some hostility) blew the whistle.

Generously, one could say that back in the early days no one knew what would happen, so perhaps it was urgent to emphasise a potential threat to heterosexuals (though it must also be said there have always been strong biological grounds to suggest that an epidemic was unlikely). Further, the line that "everyone is at risk" might be justified because it deflected attention from the main risk groups, perhaps preventing victimisation of homosexuals, African migrants and drug users.

Fundamentally, the main consequence of the worldwide perpetuation of the heterosexual Aids epidemic has been that it has ensured generous funding of groups and paid a lot of salaries. The time has come to shunt this particular grey train into its siding, and perhaps the public will learn from this experience the alchemy with which the health lobby can transmute statistics into panic.

Dr Le Fanu's latest book is *Health Wise* (Macmillan, £10.99).

The myth of female freedom

Janet Daley wonders if chaperones are a girl's best friend



Who is Mr Tyson? Protective devices of the past may be the answer to present-day dilemmas

have, and the mortifications to which this gives rise play a part in their maturing. But few crassly ambitious, star-struck male ingenuities will ever find themselves in the frightening position to which Desiree Washington exposed herself. (Perhaps she thought that her lack of experience would be a form of protection: that her virginity would bring out his better instincts. Or perhaps she was, vaguely and romantically,

anticipating intercourse but was shocked and frightened by Tyson's actual brutality.) She may have been raised by a protective Christian family but she emerged into a modern world where girls are expected "to know what they are letting themselves in for".

Innocence is a luxury that we can no longer afford because now our gullibility is thought to make us a party to the crime. In London, women estate agents

often find themselves alone in empty houses with strange men. Until the abduction of Suzy Lamplugh, it seemed to occur to no one to find this prospect alarming.

Even now that there has been the further case of Stephanie Slater — more likely to inspire imitation because it was successful — the urbane response is that it is not feasible to accompany every female on every professional

mission. These are self-reliant girls, after all, who are earning their own keep. With a bit of common sense, they can look after themselves.

But to protect herself against a psychopath who seems credibly charming, or an amoral brute, a woman needs to be more than sensible. She needs to be a diplomatic genius with infinite resources. But even supposing that a girl is lacking in the most mundane common sense: does that mean she is fair game for anyone who wishes to take advantage of her? Men are often foolish, but they rarely have to pay such a terrible price for their carelessness.

The trial has at last begun in Kenya of the two men charged with Julie Ward's murder. The fact that it is taking place at all, more than three years after her death, is largely due to the extraordinary efforts of her father, who refused to accept that his daughter had been mauled by an animal.

The most frequently published photograph of Julie Ward alive shows a joyously smiling, intelligent young woman cradling a chimpanzee in her arms. Her trip to Africa must have started as the adventure which many young girls would envy. I ask myself whether, as parents of daughters, my husband and I would forbid such a thing to our brave and "sensible" girls.

Julie Ward's parents must now channel their protectiveness into averting her death. Today's young women expect to travel the world now as men do: "happy", as Forster said, "not because they are masculine, but because they are alive". It is sometimes up to us to tell them the sad truth that simply believing in your own freedom does not make you free.



...and moreover CRAIG BROWN

I wondered, "Should I go, or should I stay?" The band had only one more song to play. And then I saw you out the corner of my eye: a little girl, alone and so shy.

Cold print could never do justice to the thrill those words once gave me. Even a phonetic rendering of the chorus — "I had the laaaaaaast waaaaaantt with you. Two loooooonely pee-pull toge-e-ther" — does little to convey the power that Engelbert Humperdinck's 1967 chart-topper once had over me.

In 1967 I was ten years old, and my sheltered upbringing had not taught me the difference between right and wrong in the field of popular culture. I had bought only one long-playing record in my life — the Music for Pleasure version of *Mary Poppins* (12/66) with a singer called Marni Nixon standing in for Julie Andrews — and so my defences were low when I switched on the radio one day and heard the resounding piano intro to *The Last Waltz* by Engelbert Humperdinck. He became my first hero.

Twenty-four years later, I can still remember the essential details of Engelbert's early career without having to look them up. He was born Gerry Dorsey in Leicester, where his family owned a laundrette, or was it a chain of laundrettes? His hobbies included chess, and his favourite food was steak. He had been touring the clubs armed with little more than his sideburns searching for a big break, when a star — Dickie

Henderson if I remember — dropped out of *Sunday Night at the London Palladium*. He sang *Release Me* — "Pleeeeeease release me, leeeet me goooooo". The audience went wild, and the rest is history, or might be history if only it were more history. Viewing the show was Gordon Mills, the manager of Tom Jones. Mills immediately signed up Dorsey, and, after heated discussion, managed to persuade him to change his name to Engelbert Humperdinck. At the time few pop singers were named after 19th-century composers, and Mills believed it would get him noticed. It did. The record reached number one, staying there for five weeks, selling a million. (Mills was later to persuade a young singer called Raymond O'Sullivan to change his name to Gilbert O'Sullivan, with similar success.)

Release Me was followed by *There Goes My Everything*, which went to number two, and then by *The Last Waltz*, the song that won me over, which stayed at number one for twelve weeks in succession. By the end of that year, Engelbert had bought a mock-tudor mansion in St George's Hill, Weybridge, and a white Rolls-Royce. I can picture now a photograph of Engelbert lounging on his white Rolls (numberplate EPH 1), or am I just imagining it? To his left, Gordon Mills (GM1) and Tom Jones (TJ1) lounge cheerfully on their own white Rolls.

I joined the Engelbert

Humperdinck Fan Club, receiving a signed photograph which my older brother flicked and smeared in a failed attempt to discredit its authenticity. Before my delighted mother, embarrassed father and quietly sneering brothers I mimed *The Last Waltz*, holding the microphone, a jumbo Blériot, in Engelbert's manner, elegantly between outstretched forefinger and thumb. With charcoal, I equipped myself with sideburns, or "ghostly common sideboards" as my father called them.

I even went so far as to write to Engelbert c/o his fan club, inviting him to give the speech at my pre-school prize-giving. I felt sure the headmaster would be only too delighted were I to achieve the coup of attracting so eminent a speaker. Though I waited for days, Engelbert never replied. The air-accident Douglas Badler gave the speech instead, upbraiding me for being scruffy dressed.

1967 was a great year in the history of pop. The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan and The Doors were all available as heroes to the young. Political heroes were a little thinner on the ground, but the more revolutionary could plump for Che Guevara or Chairman Mao, with Edward Heath as an option for the faint-hearted. But I chose Engelbert Humperdinck, the housewife's favourite (or at least second favourite, after Tom Jones). On Thursday, I will be exploring the long-term consequences of this impulsive decision.

Archer's dagger

GRANADA Television not only lost a chairman when David Plowright was ousted last week, the company also kissed goodbye to a potential blockbuster. Within hours of Plowright clearing his desk, his friend Jeffrey Archer wrote withdrawing Granada's option on serialisation to his latest bestseller, *As the Crow Flies*.

The protest will cost Granada dear. Archer had offered Plowright the serialisation for just £1, the same sum he had asked for *First Among Equals* in 1986. Archer is more than compensated by the thousands of additional books sold around the world on the back of any series.

The *First Among Equals* serialisation was one of Granada's biggest commercial successes of recent years. It was sold to 30 countries (double the normal international sale), from the Bahamas to Zambia, including the lucrative American market.

Granada refused yesterday to divulge how much the series had earned the company or to comment on how much it stood to lose by Archer's snub in taking his novel elsewhere. But so pleased was the company with its last Archer series, which included a painstaking £200,000 reconstruction of the chamber of the House of Commons, that *First Among Equals* was one of only three programmes highlighted in a £1.4 million advertising campaign to promote independent television in 1987. The ad boasted that the series had helped ITV win 135 awards in the previous year.

"I have the greatest respect and admiration for David Plowright," was all Archer would say when asked yesterday about his protest in support of his old friend.



● Coffee at £10 a cup? Even Claridge's and The Ritz do not yet charge that much. But be warned: it is on its way. A Harrogate merchant has imported ten kilos of what is thought the world's most expensive coffee (£150 a kilo) from Sumatra, where it grows at the foot of Mount Merapi. "They spit them out, which gives the unique taste," says Tony Wild of the importers. "The fact that gathering the beans is not nice puts up the price." His verdict after a personal tasting? "Full bodied, smooth and round with some earthiness." Quite.

Royal doubles

PENNY LUMLEY, the women's world real tennis champion, was knocked out of Britain's national mixed doubles championships at the weekend in an early round of the competition at Hampton Court. Those looking for an explanation for her unexpected exit immediately pointed the finger at her unknown partner, Edward Warburton.

Even among those present, few realised the identity of the man who apparently let down the world champion: the name Edward Warburton conceals none other than Prince Edward, who had modestly borrowed his bodyguard's surname for the weekend.

Edward took up real tennis at Cambridge and although he and his partner missed a place in the quarter-finals, coming only third in their qualifying group, Lesley Ronaldson, the tournament organiser, insists the prince performed creditably. "He played some very stylish points and is improving rapidly."

Lumley was equally gracious in defeat. "The prince played well but the tournament is handicapped. I find that as I improve I get men of a lower standard."

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THE NEPHEW of one of Scotland's best known socialist firebrands has been elected president of the Scottish Tory party. Adrian Shinwell, 40, a doughty opponent of Scottish separatism, insists his late uncle, Manny, would not have been disappointed. "He knew my views and we used to have very energetic discussions about them. He was a democrat first and foremost."

The appointment represents a second such coup for the Tories, coming less than a month after a nephew of Nye Bevan pledged his support for the government's health reforms.

Manny Shinwell, who died in 1986 at the age of 101, can take much of the blame for his nephew's interest in politics. "He gave me a guided tour of Westminster when I was about 11. He took me into the House of Lords and sat me on the Woolstack."

● With exquisite timing the first trade press adverts have appeared this week for the May publication of the new novel by Tim Sebastian, who wrote the now infamous Sunday Times story about Labour and the Kremlin cables. "If the truth could kill, he'd be a deadly weapon," declares the ad alongside a moody picture of Sebastian. Try telling that to Neil Kinnock.



PAYING THE MARKET WAY

For politicians rather than markets to decide pay is wrong. It creates political temptations which no government can resist in election year. Nobody should be surprised that the government is giving pay rises above the inflation rate to nurses, doctors, teachers and the armed services, implementing in full and immediately the advice of the relevant pay review bodies. These are electorally popular groups. Nor should it be a surprise that a decision on top salaries for the less popular group of judges, senior civil servants and senior military staff is being put off until after the election, at the request of the review body's chairman.

This is naked electioneering, but it is more than that. A case can always be made for each of the individual pay awards. Yesterday saw the first report of the school teachers' pay review body which proposes an average rise of 7.5 per cent, higher than for the other groups. John Major can be seen as fulfilling his promise of encouraging the recruitment and retention of teachers and making education a top priority. In other cases, while the pay awards are well above the inflation rate, they are the lowest for nurses since 1983, and the lowest for doctors, dentists and the armed services since 1979.

In principle, it is reasonable that over time the pay of public sector workers should keep up with the inflation rate. But the whole paraphernalia of pay review bodies has an in-built bias in favour of rises clearly above the rate of inflation. Unlike the private sector, where the pay of specific groups at times increases by well below the average or is even frozen, the pay review bodies create a ratchet where public-sector pay increases steadily each year almost regardless of what is happening to government finances. While comparability studies have been broadened from looking just at the rewards for apparently similar jobs in the private sector, they reflect an underlying mentality of the "going-rate" pay rise. This is no substitute for the discipline of the market place, and must undermine sound resource management and a concern for productivity in the public sector.

The Treasury sets cash limits on the running and operating costs of public programmes separately from the pay-review decisions. In theory, and partly in practice, that is a spur to efficiency. But for programmes where pay is a high proportion of the total budget, the result is that, since pay awards are conceded to the unions as sacrosanct, other areas of expenditure such as investment are reduced. This year, to avoid charges of cutting back patient care or school equipment ahead of the election, the Treasury is providing an extra £209 million. The Treasury is unlikely to be as generous next year.

The answer is as old as Thatcherism: to decentralise the setting of pay to those with direct responsibility for budgets. Instead of national comparability studies, local managers, whether in hospital trusts or grant-maintained schools, should set pay to achieve a balance between labour-market conditions in their areas and their own resources. That was the corollary of the executive agencies proposed for Whitehall under the Next Steps initiative. So far, little but rhetoric has been heard of this, largely because civil service managers with no experience of the private sector are petrified of the civil service unions.

The pay review bodies are themselves unwieldy about union pressure on civil service managers. The first report from the school teachers' body under Sir Graham Day shows some fresh thinking to improve recruitment and retention. It suggests an increase both in incentive allowances, especially in primary schools, and in their value. This is a prelude to the development of "proposals for a performance-related pay scheme which rewards teachers at schools that can demonstrate measurable improvements in their performance." This pious reformism has been coming from such bodies for years. It means decisive ministerial action to force senior civil servants to confront their unions in order to alter terms and conditions of service. There will be no such action in an election year. Treasury-led cost-push inflation will thus continue unabated.

EC'S AWKWARD NEIGHBOUR

The Algerian military government's declaration of a state of emergency and its banning of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) is an understandable reaction to weeks of bloodshed. More than 40 people were killed and over 300 wounded at the weekend after FIS activists defied orders aimed at preventing imams abusing the freedom of religion to call for an Islamic uprising. The government, with the approval of the press, the Westernised middle class and Algeria's nervous neighbours, assumed powers to set up detention centres, order house searches, ban marches, close public places, dissolve local authorities and order trial by military courts. They, and their European neighbours across the Mediterranean, may regret such draconian measures.

Inevitably the fundamentalists will now become more radical. Already they are playing on the frustration of supporters who saw electoral victory snatched from them; now they will add persecution and martyrdom to their appeal. The party will be forced underground, and may resort to terrorism. From the sanctuary of their mosques, the shadowy FIS leaders who evade arrest will preach an increasingly obscurantist, anti-Western and anti-democratic message. They will portray the crack-down as an attack on Islam, and try to imbue the young and the poor, who voted for the FIS not out of religious conviction but in protest at corruption and economic stagnation, with the zeal of religious fanaticism.

The West has enormous interest in stability in Algeria. Its population, now at 25 million, is one of the fastest growing in Africa, and as more and more young people come on to the stagnant job market, the pressure grows to emigrate north. Already the four million North Africans in France are causing huge social tensions that nourish a rejuvenated far right. Spain and Italy, with

increasing numbers of illegal immigrants, view with alarm the threatened surge across the Mediterranean. And in a European Community where freedom of movement allows those who have slipped beneath the barrier to move on further at will, northern Europe is already confronted with transoceanic immigrants fleeing the racism and prejudice of France and Belgium. Last year nine times as many Africans as Europeans applied for asylum in Britain. And of the 27,500 applying while already inside the country, the largest group, numbering 7,000, were from French-speaking Zaïre.

To prevent an explosion of unrest that could spur emigration, Europe must look at large-scale aid to North Africa. Funding development is cheaper in the end than dealing with the detritus of social breakdown. But Western investment and new trade agreements are unlikely to be forthcoming while unrest prevails. Tackling a religious-based opposition head on looks doomed, as the moral legitimacy afforded by mosques and churches only enhances the political claims, spurious or genuine, of the opposition. The communist government of East Germany was never able to crush the dissident Lutheran church and the democratic movement it nourished.

So far Europe has tried to keep its distance from the Algerian imbroglio. Europe is embarrassed to demonstrate the sympathy it feels for the military suppression of the FIS while denouncing the military in Burma, for instance, for annulling the results of a democratic election. Algeria's rulers have no easy task in confronting a party that is itself opposed to the democracy it seeks to exploit. The West can afford them some understanding. But it should insist on a timetable for an eventual rescheduling of the elections, and use aid pressure to prevent a state of emergency becoming a settled dictatorship.

TANDOORI WITH CHIPS

Indian newspapers are reprinting articles by famous former correspondents to celebrate the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales. One of these is Kipling, long naively abused as a public relations officer for imperialism, but always sympathetic to Indians as to the grandes of the Raj. Winston Churchill is a more surprising choice. He was the grand old tusk of the Indian Empire who resisted Indian independence into the last wadi. Yet he earned his first literary fees, five guineas per article, from an Indian newspaper.

That such writing from their imperialist past is acceptable to modern Indians runs against the tide of political correctness in the rest of the world. Across the Atlantic Columbus is being denounced five centuries too late for having introduced original sin into the "New World" Garden of Eden, and Red Indian and Eskimo are now racist words. Nor is there much prospect of *Pravda* reprinting interminably leaden articles by Lenin out of nostalgia for Russia's communist past. There must be something special in the relationship between India and Britain. It was not simply the relationship between gentry and servants in a grand country house, as Nehru alleged.

The English language itself is Britain's most obvious gift to India. It is a unifying factor in a subcontinent where there are some 200 distinct languages, and 14 official state languages, as well as Hindi and English. Indian English is in some ways more "correct" than British English, because it is taught from old-fashioned text-books by teachers for whom it is not their first language. There may well be fewer unconscious solecisms and barbarisms in

Indian English than in British. Indians are less casual with the shared language.

Other legacies from the Raj that both countries can be proud of are the army, Victorian architecture, the railways, and a vigorous English-language press. The Prince of Wales's business leaders' forum at Bangalore on Thursday "to develop a new world vision" is another instance of a mystical Anglo-Indian belief, often well disguised, that there must be something more to economic life than the laws of the market. The two countries share four centuries of history, since the first Elizabeth granted a charter to the governor and company of merchants of London trading with the East Indies.

Not all of that history was exploitative and bloody. There was in the Anglo-Indian bond a real understanding and love, more so than in other reaches of the British Empire. This bond survives. Four of the first 13 awards of the Booker prize were either to Indians or for books about India. One of those winners, V.S. Naipaul, thought that the most lasting monument of the Raj was the concept of Englishness as a desirable code of behaviour, of civility tempered by legalism. What is remarkable is that modern Indians can dissociate this ideal from the experience of British rule, from the vulgarities of racial arrogance, and from the predicament of so many Indian immigrants in England today. Evidently another shared characteristic is an enthusiasm for Anglo-Indian history, and a recognition that this history need not be rewritten, only seen through the eyes of those who lived it. There is no better sign of India's self-confidence and maturity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pemington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Returning from grant-maintained to grammar schools

From Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North (Conservative) and Mr Robert J. Dunn, MP for Darford (Conservative)

Sir, We were dismayed by your leading article of February 4 attacking Kenneth Clarke's statement that he did not mind one in ten grant-maintained schools becoming grammar schools again.

There are two simple requirements for the improvement of British education: firm class teaching of the basics in the primary school, and the introduction of a variety of secondary schools catering for the different interests of adolescent pupils.

The comprehensive schools have not, despite the dedication of very many of their teachers and the notable successes of certain schools, created an educated work and leisure force equal to that of our industrial competitors, with their wider variety of secondary schools. Twice as many young people per head of population go on to university in Germany, and twice as many per head of population complete craft and technical apprenticeships there.

What Britain needs is not the continuance of a blanket comprehensive secondary school system, as implied in your leading article, but a wide variety of secondary schools appealing to the varied interests of pupils. Japan, Russia and Sweden, despite their different economic systems, all have a third of their children in technical secondary schools.

We, in Britain, are a city-and-big-town people and we should introduce a rich variety of science, technical, language, craft, mathematical, commercial, trade, and even sports and classical schools, all of which cover the basic curriculum but all of which also have one or two hours of extra tuition every day within their specialities. This is economical of scarce specialist staff and makes teaching easier by dint of subject interest.

We have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servants, RHODES BOYSON, ROBERT J. DUNN, House of Commons, February 6.

From the County Education Officer, Hereford and Worcester County Council

Sir, Very early in my career in education administration I ran the 11-plus selection procedures in a northern education authority, and because of that experience I write to applaud your leader. We are delighted if we think that a return to the 11-plus is the way to improve the

performance of the maintained system of education.

I am appalled at the prospect of a return to the days when so much ability was wasted, so many able children branded as failures and untold distress caused in so many families. To do so would be a mistake and the result potentially much more damaging now than it was then. In those days, it might be said that we knew no better: now we have no such excuse.

Yours faithfully, J. W. TURNBULL, County Education Officer, Hereford and Worcester County Council, Castle Street, Worcester.

From Mr Stuart Sexton

Sir, When you pontificate on education, as you do today, it is as if you had stopped thinking in 1965, ignoring the mistakes of the 1960s and 70s, and the long haul of reform of the 80s.

The three-tier structure of education (grammar-modern-technical) was not widely regarded as a mistake; the comprehensive experiment was introduced not on educational grounds but for reasons of egalitarian dogma. Before losing the three-tier system, however, we successfully exported it to post-war Germany where it lives on, thrives, and gives Germany an excellent secondary school system.

Opted-out schools are not "in effect central government schools". On the contrary, they are self-managed schools, a highly effective decentralising measure.

We do not need Mr Clarke to "introduce" selective schools. We simply want the people that really do matter, parents and their children, to be able to select from a diversity of schools the type of school which in their judgment is best suited for their children. And if they choose a grammar school for an academically able child, they could even be right; but it will be their judgment, not mine, nor yours.

Yours faithfully, STUART SEXTON (Director, Education Unit, Independent Primary and Secondary Education Trust), Warrington Park School, Chesham Common, Warrington, Surrey, February 4.

From Mrs S. Flynn

Sir, Your kneejerk reaction to Mr Clarke's assertion that he would not object to one in ten grant-maintained schools applying for grammar

school status does you no credit. Mr Clarke has not signalled the return of the 11-plus; rather, he is pointing a way forward in the state sector that has long been the prerogative of those able to afford to pay.

I recently had the good fortune to visit a local exhibition resulting from a schools art competition. It was quite clear that one local school was producing work head and shoulders above the others. They have an enthusiastic head of art with excellent staff, and are, to quote a local school governor, "getting quite a reputation for their art department".

If my five-year-old, starting out in the local state primary, should show that this is where his strengths lie, then I want to be able to choose that school on this basis, secure in the knowledge that his speciality will be catered for, and that the national curriculum will ensure a sound basis all round.

Yours faithfully, SIAN FLYNN, Kiwan Lodge, Valley End, Chobam, Woking, Surrey.

From Mrs Julia Dalton

Sir, The 100 per cent coursework option at GCSE so carefully developed and successfully adopted by many schools, especially for English subjects, is now to be withdrawn. The maximum amount of coursework allowed for those beginning GCSE courses in September will be 30 per cent. The GCSE coursework was adopted by schools as a system designed to show what people can do. Why is the government so obsessed with trying to prove what they cannot?

To "raise the spectre", as your leader put it, of the 11-plus exam would be finally to leave teachers no option but to take direct action. As a teacher, I would never agree to strike on any pay-related issue; but on these fundamental principles I would want to stand and be counted.

Yours faithfully, JULIA DALTON, Wychems, Mill Lane, Thetford, Royston, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Alan Anderson

Sir, Why is it wrong to label children as "failures" when we have to face the fact that many of them are? And why do we have to reduce teaching and examinations to the level which we feel everybody can reach, so that we end up teaching nothing to the vast majority above that level?

Yours sincerely, A. J. ANDERSON, 32 Rankellor Street, Edinburgh, February 4.

Aircraft safety

From Mr James Vant

Sir, It is six and a half years since the aircraft accident at Manchester, where 55 persons on board lost their lives due to the effects of smoke and toxic fumes. The Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety (PACTS) welcomes any measure that is likely to improve aircraft survivability and believes that the combination of smoke hoods and water-spray systems may provide a complementary basis for survival in aviation accidents involving fire.

Regrettably, we are less optimistic than the Civil Aviation Authority about the possibility of early international agreement on a water-spray system as reported in your edition of February 2. Furthermore, we believe that the case for water-spray systems to deal effectively with all the scenarios of life-threatening smoke and toxic fumes has yet to be made.

PACTS believes that the mandatory provision of smoke hoods remains the best chance in the near future of providing passengers with protection against smoke and toxic fumes. An international specification, to which the Civil Aviation Authority were party, has been established. This provides for a maximum donning time which, when met, eliminates any doubts about possible delays in evacuation by use of such equipment.

Yours faithfully, JAMES VANT (Chairman, Aviation Safety Working Party), Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety, St Thomas' Hospital, Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.

From the Director General of the British Safety Council

Sir, Notwithstanding the easy option recommendations after the Manchester air disaster to have £20

smoke hoods in all aircraft, we confirmed the opinion of the fire chiefs on the spot: the only result of smoke hoods would be more dead people pulled out, wearing smoke hoods.

The obvious solution always was some type of water-sprinkler device fitted in all aircraft but the extra weight of which would inevitably create opposition on the part of cost-conscious airlines and manufacturers.

Therefore, more power to the elbow of the Civil Aviation Authority, who have had the courage to disagree with other air safety bodies world wide in recommending the cabin sprinkler system.

Yours faithfully, JAMES TYE, Director General, British Safety Council, National Safety Centre, Chancery Lane, W6, February 3.

Value for money?

From Mr James Spurr

Sir, Now that we know that so many captains of industry read your newspaper (Business, February 5), can we expect your journalists to choose even more expensive restaurants, wines, clothes and holidays to recommend to us? What about a bit more attention to the tastes and pockets of schoolmasters, clergymen, civil servants and the rest of us who are *Times* readers too, but who probably earn less than the captain of industry's junior assistant?

Yours faithfully, JAMES SPURR, Common Hill Cottage, East Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, February 6.

Sutton and the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

Councillor Tope's figures were selective, in that those for the grant of the two authorities were based on the adult population, whereas his "spending" figures were based on the total population.

If the standard spending assessments and grant figures are compared on the basis of the total population of each borough, the differences are much smaller and can easily be explained in terms of minor differences in the composition of that total population.

The comparative figures are: 1992-3, standard spending assessment, Kingston £698; Sutton, £689. Total government grant, Kingston, £644; Sutton £633.

1991-2, expenditure, Kingston £647; Sutton £640.

Yours faithfully, PAUL CLOKIE (Leader), Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Guildhall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, February 10.

Advertising that gives offence

From the Director General of the Advertising Association

Sir, On more than one occasion in the last few months, Benetton has hit the headlines for its controversial "advertising". Not all of these "advertisements" have in practice appeared, because self-regulatory authorities in several countries have advised the media that some of the advertisements were inappropriate or likely to cause offence. So what Benetton has, in effect, been doing is exploiting the controversy to draw attention to their brand name, and possibly their products.

In doing so they have achieved dozens of column inches about the offence they might have caused. Clever, you might think. But what they also have done is to cock a snook at the excellent and sensitive self-regulatory system in this country.

The Advertising Standards Authority receives thousands of complaints every year and publicly admonishes those who have broken the strict codes. Such a system depends on the admonished withdrawing misleading copy or avoiding publishing an offence. It depends on decency, common sense and mutual respect.

Benetton, which has been publicly censured by the ASA, has put the self-regulatory system under most unwelcome pressure. I pass no comment on the photographs that have been published, nor their value in advertisements. I simply wish that advertisers would not seek to undermine a system set up to protect the public and their customers. Benetton does not, I suspect, enjoy the respect of many of their peers in the advertising business.

Yours, RICHARD WADE, Director General, The Advertising Association, Abford House, 15 Wilton Road, SW1, February 6.

Faulty towers

From Professor H. C. Higgins

Sir, Your leader-writer's comments on Marsham Street ("Faulty towers", February 7) suggest that he has been dancing with the Prince of Wales! If so, he is dancing in the dark.

The term "brutalism", or more accurately "new brutalism", was used by architects in the 1960s to describe a relatively small number of avant-garde buildings of stark simplicity; they were usually low-rise, built in brickwork or natural-finish concrete, and more often than not for residential use.

The Marsham Street offices used state-of-the-art building methods to house the maximum number of people under one ministerial roof. To use these peculiarly British derivations of high-rise design to attack high-rise architecture *per se* is to ignore the superlative architectural quality of many North American cities as well as the splendour of the traditional high-rise city of old Sana'a in the Yemen.

Please, no more architectural criticisms which reflect the values of Enid Blyton.

Yours, in reasonably good faith, H. C. HIGGINS, 15 Bury Walk, Chelsea, SW3.

The right to die

From Dr R. C. Smith

Sir, Mr Ludovic Kennedy (letter, February 7) fails to take up a main point of Mr Levin's article, which was that to put a DIY suicide manual into the hands of those suffering from temporary — though real — despair might mean that lives would be lost which could otherwise be saved and made worthwhile by care and counselling. The records of the Samaritans show again and again that the "cry for help" is a very real thing.

The problem of those dying with intolerable pain has a different solution. The work pioneered by Dame Cicely Saunders and the hospices shows that pain can be relieved without making the sufferer comatose, and that death when it comes does so with peace and dignity and in a caring environment. This makes an enormous difference, not only to the patients themselves, but to those who will mourn them.

The need is for more hospices, not for "mercy-killers".

Yours sincerely, R. C. SMITH, 28 Thorney Green Road, Stowupland, Suffolk.

Beyond their ken

From Mr Harold Davis

Sir, The letter recently addressed to my late wife by World Wide Fund for Nature was different in one important respect from the many others from various organisations that I have opened in the six years since her death:

We have recently been notified by the Mailing Preference Service that their records show that Mrs A. Davis [sic] at your address is now deceased. However, our computer records do not indicate that in any way, and I am writing to you for clarification.

Does not even mortality release us from the claims of the computer database?

Yours faithfully, HAROLD DAVIS, 545 Newark Road, Lincoln, February 3.

OBITUARIES

ALEX HALEY

Alex Palmer Haley, the black American author of *Roots*, which became a world-acclaimed television production, died suddenly at a Seattle hospital on February 10 aged 70. He was born in Ithaca, New York, on August 11, 1921.

FAME came late to Alex Haley. He was 55 years old when *Roots: The Saga of an American Family* was published in 1976 and he became, overnight, the literary champion of his race. No other African-American had ever attempted to trace back his family history from its tribal origins, through the horrors of the slave trade, and on to achieving something approaching equality in the world of the white man. Though some contemporary critics condemned it as a mere novel, and Haley himself admitted that many episodes were fictionalised for dramatic effect, the impact of *Roots* was tremendous. It won the 1977 Pulitzer prize and an estimated 130 million people saw the initial showing of the 12-hour television version in 1977. Many millions more have seen it since.

The origins of the book were almost accidental. Haley, who left school at the age of 15, had begun writing while serving as a cook in the US Coast Guard during the second world war. At first his literary efforts were confined to writing love letters on behalf of his illiterate mess-mates but he soon turned to writing away the months at sea by writing short stories. It took eight years before his first story was published. The coast guard, seemingly impressed, created a new post especially for him: Haley became the service's chief (and only) journalist.

In 1959 Haley retired from the coast guard to become a full-time writer. It was a skimpy existence until, in 1962, he recorded a conversation with the jazz trumpeter Miles Davis and turned it into the first of the *Playboy* interviews. Regular commissions followed and an interview with Malcolm X, radical spokesman of "the Nation of Islam", so impressed a publisher that Haley was asked to turn it into a book. As a literary "ghost," Haley



was an instant success. The *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, published in 1965, sold six million copies in eight languages. Write one critic: "You can hear and feel Malcolm in this book: it is a superb job of transcription. Its dead-level honesty, its passion, its exalted purpose, even its manifold unsolved ambiguities, make it stand as a monument to the most painful of truths: that this country, this people, this Western world, has practised unspeakable cruelty against a race, an individual, who might have made its fraudulent

humanism a reality." The purported author never lived to read it. Malcolm X was assassinated two weeks after the manuscript was finished. But Haley was on his way. He signed a contract with Doubleday & Co to write a book about the American South before the 1954 Supreme Court decision declaring school segregation unconstitutional. It was never written, because while in London on another writing assignment Haley visited the British Museum and saw the Rosetta Stone. It was the beginning of his long jour-

ney to *Roots*. As a child Haley had heard strange words of an African language passed down through his family from their slave forebears. Now he mused that if, like the strange hieroglyphics on the Rosetta Stone, those sounds could be properly deciphered, they, too, might unlock a buried past. On impulse, when he returned to the US he went to the National Archives in Washington and asked to see the census records of Almarance County, North Carolina, for the years following the Civil War. In these he found the names of several ancestors and the hunt was on.

For twelve years, supported by piecemeal advances from his long-suffering publishers and *Readers Digest* Haley became obsessed with tracing his maternal bloodline back through seven generations in the United States and several more in a village on the banks of the Gambia River in West Africa.

With the help of a linguist at the University of Wisconsin Haley succeeded in identifying the African words he had heard used by his family as being in the Manding dialect of Gambia. He spent \$80,000 and travelled half a million miles in his quest, eventually tracking down the key figure of "Kunta Kinte", who had been kidnapped in Gambia and sold into slavery in 1767.

Haley had been lucky. In the Gambian village of Juffure he found a tribal historian who chanted for him the history of the Kinte tribe from its earliest origins in old Mali, and told of the kidnapping "when the King's soldiers came." Kunta Kinte, Haley was convinced, was the same man as his ancestor, known as "Kin-tay", who was brought as a slave to Annapolis, Maryland.

Through Lloyds of London he set out to identify the actual event, and discovered that the slave ship *Lord Ligonier*, captained by Thomas E. Davies, had sailed with captives from the Gambia on July 5, 1767. Documents in the Library of Congress confirmed that the *Lord Ligonier* had discharged her cargo of slaves in Annapolis on September 29 of that year. On September 29, 1967, exactly 200 years later, Alex Haley stood on an Annapolis pier

and wept. It took another seven years to put the book together. Haley was nothing if not scrupulous in his research. He visited more than 50 libraries and archives on three continents before settling down to the formidable task of converting his vast trove of material into a readable narrative. At one point, to gain authenticity, he booked passage on a freighter sailing from West Africa to the US and spent each night down in the hold. There, stripped to his underwear on a rough board between bales of raw rubber, he tried to imagine what it was like "to lie there in chains, in filth, hearing the cries of 139 other men screaming, babbling, praying and dying around you."

Some critics were dismissive of the "fictional" style of *Roots* and others disputed its factual accuracy. After an article in *The Sunday Times* questioned the work's fundamental findings, Haley came to London to defend what he described as his "symbolic history." He admitted that when dealing with oral evidence lacking any written records as in Gambia, he could not be positive about every detail. But, he said, he had spent years researching the book and everything in it stood up to scrutiny. *Roots*, he said, should be contrasted with the "Tazian and Jane" image of Africa that he claimed had been the American cultural approach for generations.

Roots proved to be Haley's last work of significance. After it he wrote a novel, *A Different Kind of Christmas*, which told the story of Fletcher Randall, a wealthy Southern plantation owner who undergoes a moral conversion and joins the underground railroad network that helped free slaves. This work made little impact, however, and with 500 American colleges building courses around the *Roots* book, Haley discovered a talent as a public speaker and found himself in huge demand on campuses across the country.

He became a familiar figure on the US speaking circuit, and was fulfilling an engagement on the West Coast when he was suddenly taken to hospital on Sunday night.

APPRECIATIONS

Sir Edward Rayne

EVEN in the fashion industry, where personal eccentricities are encouraged, Edward Rayne (obituary, February 10) was seen as a larger-than-life character, with his endearingly roly-poly silhouette and dapper style of dress. The immaculate spats he always wore to Ascot, and his brown trilby with a distinctive curl to its brim — combined with a Runyonesque turn of phrase — "easy peasy", "making a buck" — added a theatrical raffishness to his role as chairman of the British Fashion Council from 1985 to 1990, and his earlier career as a retailing tycoon. While giving the impression that at any moment he might break into a song and dance routine, this Nicely-Nicely Johnson character with a permanent smile, pebble-lensed spectacles and self-deprecating humour, was an effective and dedicated ambassador for the British fashion industry over three decades.

As chairman of the Incorporated Society of London Fashion Designers from 1960, and a member of the Export Council for Europe, he pioneered the industry's export drive, particularly in the US, and attempted to provide British fashion with the commercial clout that its

designers so singularly lacked. When American buyers continued to by-pass British talent on their way to Paris to place their orders, he chartered a plane and went to fetch them himself. "That did the trick," he said.

He was proud of Rayne's Old Bond Street flagship shop with its Oliver Messel



decor and his company's Royal Warrants as shoemakers to the Queen Mother and to the Queen. The satin sandals worn by the Queen on her wedding day are still part of the Rayne archives. And he enjoyed the company's nickname as cobbler to the Queen. Norman Hartnell, another royal warrant holder, signed his Christmas cards to Eddie Rayne, "to the cobbler from the little woman round the corner".

Le Smith

Eitan Livni

WE SHOULD always be charitable to the dead, but Eitan Livni (obituary, February 5) was not a leader of a militant Jewish independence movement. The Irgun Zvai Leumi was a terrorist organization, and a particularly nasty one. Even its defenders, who argued that the

end could justify the means at decisive moments in history, were horrified by the massacre at Deir Yassin and the hanging of the British sergeants.

Louis Heren

THE capture of Eitan Livni by the 6th Airborne Division occurred on April 2, 1946, not 1944 as stated in the obituary.

JEAN HAMBURGER

Professor Jean Hamburger, "father of world nephrology", died in Paris on February 1 aged 82. He was born there on July 15, 1909.

JEAN Hamburger died in the very hospital where for more than quarter of a century he had carried out his pioneering work on kidney transplants, immunology and reanimation. It was at the nephrology clinic which he founded in the capital's Necker Hospital in the early 1950s, that Hamburger and his team developed the first French artificial kidney, carried out a family kidney transplant (transplanting the kidney of a mother into her son in 1953) which suggested such a relationship could help the grafted kidney's survival, and performed Europe's first successful kidney transplant between non-identical twins (in 1959) just a few weeks after the same kind of operation had been carried out by John Merrill in Boston. Hamburger thus just missed

getting the Nobel Prize, which was awarded to Merrill. He was, nevertheless, showered with countless other honours and awards, including membership of the Royal College of Physicians.

A revered humanist and the author of more than 20 medical, literary and philosophical works, he was also elected in 1985 to join the "immortals" at the Académie Française, France's most select literary body, when he became an assiduous and greatly valued member of its dictionary revision committee. He was made Commander of the French Order of Arts and Letters and Grand Officer of the Légion d'honneur (the second highest rank of the Legion of Honour).

Hamburger was the son of an art gallery owner. A rigorous perfectionist in his work, he was also appreciated for his sensitivity, warm heart and contagious dynamism. Twice married, he had three children by his first wife, one of whom became the well-known French singer Michel Berger.

COLONEL SIR MARTIN GIBBS

Colonel Sir Martin Gibbs, KCVO, CB, DSO, TD, JP, Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, died on February 8 aged 74. He was born on February 14, 1917.

TIM Gibbs died on the eve of his last public duty as Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire. He was due to have been at a service in Gloucester Cathedral next day marking the Queen's 40th anniversary as monarch but he collapsed at his home, Ewen Manor, near Cirencester. After being Lord-Lieutenant for 14 years, Gibbs was to have retired from the post on his 75th birthday next Friday.

The nature of the post in any case brings the holder into contact with the royal family but in Gloucestershire that was more frequent, given that the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent have houses there and participate in the life of the county. Gibbs' advice was sought and judiciously given. He was, for example, chairman of one Gloucester Cathedral restoration appeal and patron of another, one of the many good causes in the county to benefit from his encouragement, and the Prince of Wales became royal patron. Of the target of £4 million, £2.8 million has so far been raised. It was a measure of the respect with which Gibbs was held that the Prince of Wales should have held a private dinner party at Highgrove on January 31 to mark his retirement. Gibbs had last year been created KCVO.

Martin St John Valentine Gibbs was a son of the late Major G. M. Gibbs, who also lived at Ewen, Cirencester. His brother, Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, is Lord-Lieutenant of neighbouring Wiltshire. Gibbs went to Eton, like his brother, and began in 1937 an association with the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry as a 2nd lieutenant. The Yeomanry Brigade took its horses to Palestine in 1940, was in action against the Vichy French in 1941 then retrained as armoured troops before going to the Western Desert where Gibbs won his DSO. He was wounded in both legs, almost lost one of them and ended minus three toes. At El Gubi the brigade suffered severe losses against Rommel, but in 1942 revenge was sweet at Alamein, their next major encounter, when it took the lead in breaking through the minefields. In 1942 Gibbs

was a major. After the war he rose to be colonel in 1958 and then honorary colonel of the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry Squadron T&AVR from 1972 to 1982. That connection was extended when he was between 1975 and 1982 simultaneously honorary colonel of the Royal Yeomanry RAC, T&AVR and Colonel Commandant of the Yeomanry, RAC. Not only was he a High Sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1958 but became a deputy lieutenant of Wiltshire in 1972.

Gibbs was very much aware of the strength given to the army by regiments with local loyalties and affiliations. The Gloucestershire Regiment, with its record of gallantry in two world wars and at the Imjin River, now faces amalgamation with the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, much to the consternation of those whose families or neighbourhood have had anything to do with it. Gibbs remained aware of this well of feeling and was organising meetings to see what could be done to save a tradition of service. The Royal Gloucestershire Hussars Band, which adorned a thousand fetes,



feasts or parades, is also threatened with extinction. Gibbs himself adorned parades in his representative role, local council meetings, and the activities of sea, air and army cadets. He was meticulous in his attention to detail, had a marvellous memory for names, could get on with people, and took an interest in what they were doing. He served as a JP. He was a traditionalist, but an open-minded traditionalist, in the best sense of the word: he was conscious of tradition as a basis for evolutionary change. His interests were of the country, hunting — as chairman of the VWH Hunt for 10 years — fishing and shooting. He leaves a widow, Mary, two daughters and three stepsons.

THE DOWAGER DUCHESS OF LEINSTER

The Dowager Duchess of Leinster has died in hospital in Brighton aged 71. She was the widow of the 7th Duke, who had led an unorthodox and erratic life. She was born on February 19, 1920.

THE upbringing of the Dowager Duchess of Leinster had not prepared her for exalted rank. Vivien Irene Felton was born in a Battersea council house, the third daughter of an impoverished accounts clerk, Thomas Albert Felton, and his wife, Lilian Adhead.

In 1937, at the age of 17, she married a Battersea businessman, George William Conner, and gave birth to a son, Anthony Raymond. The Conners were a happy and united family until 1956, at which time they were caretakers at a block of service flats in Kensington.

Among the tenants was a tall and charming man who called himself "Mr FitzGerald" and conveyed the impression to Vivien Conner of "an absent-minded professor". He was, in fact, Edward FitzGerald, 7th Duke of Leinster, the premier duke, marquess and earl of Ireland, who was described by his second wife as "fey, wistful, vulnerable — in this world but not of it".

Originally the heir to a considerable fortune, he had signed away the dual income of over £1,000 a week to the baronet, Sir Harry Mallaby-Deeley, founder of the Fifty Shilling Tailors, in return for a capital sum to pay his youthful debts. He did this as a gamble, never expecting to inherit, but his elder brother Maurice, the 6th Duke, died in 1922 at the age of only 34 in an Edinburgh mental asylum and Edward succeeded to the dukedom without residences or heirlooms and with only £1,000 a year as income.

By the time of his meeting with Vivien Conner he had been made bankrupt three times and had married three times: first, the stage soubrette, May Etheridge,



who committed suicide soon after their divorce; second, Raffaele Kennedy, an American beauty from Brooklyn; and third, the musical comedy star, Denise Orme, formerly Lady Churston, who in 1956 was living apart from the Duke at Woburn Abbey, the home of her son-in-law, the Duke of Bedford.

The third Duchess died in 1960. After obtaining a divorce from her husband Vivien Conner became the Duke's fourth wife at a secret, early morning ceremony at Brighton Register office on May 12, 1965.

Soon afterwards, they opened a fashion boutique, called La Duchesse in the Brighton Lanes but this, like so many of the Duke's business ventures over the years, proved a commercial failure. Vivien Leinster showed great resourceful-

ness, however, in unscrambling the Duke's 28-year-old third bankruptcy. The registrar who heard the case commented that "most of the creditors must be with the angels", but with great determination the Duchess obtained her husband's discharge, enabling him to take his seat belatedly in the House of Lords in 1975 after 53 years as a duke.

In November of that year the Leisters attended their first and last state opening of Parliament and on the following day sailed to New York on the liner *Queen Elizabeth 2* to raise money for a new charity, the All Ireland Distress Fund, for victims of terrorism. Predictably, however, they encountered hostility from American groups in sympathy with the IRA and the tour was abruptly curtailed.

Back in Britain bitter family divisions arose over a Leinster trust fund of which the Duke and Duchess were beneficiaries, but from which neither was receiving an income. The dispute escalated and on March 8, 1976, amidst considerable publicity, the 83-year-old Duke killed himself in a Pimlico bedsitter with a massive overdose of nembutal sleeping tablets.

His distraught widow gave evidence at the inquest, after which her stepson Gerald, the 8th Duke, provided her with a small apartment in Sloane Avenue Mansions, Chelsea. The Dowager Duchess went to work for Help the Aged, opening several of their charity shops, and in 1978 took a post at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Chelsea, dropping her title and calling herself simply Mrs Vivien FitzGerald.

She took up painting with impressive results and in 1987 moved to a seafront flat in Brighton to join her first husband, George Conner. But Brighton was also the town where she had married the Duke, to whose memory her devotion never faltered. She is survived by her only son, Tony Conner.

HENRY STOMMEL

Henry Melson Stommel, oceanographer, died in Boston, Massachusetts, on January 18 aged 71. He was born in Wilmington, Delaware, on September 27, 1920.

CONSIDERED to be one of the most influential oceanographers of his time, Henry Stommel made his reputation in the 1950s by propounding a theory on the circulation of water in the Atlantic. He suggested that the rotation of the earth was responsible for pushing the Gulf Stream along the coast of North America and that its northward flow must be balanced by a return stream of cold water, heading south, deep below the surface.

Taking the idea further, Stommel proposed a global circulation of ocean currents in which surface water sinks in the far northern regions to

feed the south-flowing current, while it rises in the Antarctic to supply a northward flow along the entire eastern coast of the United States. Though it was pure theory at the time, the idea aroused world-wide interest and subsequent experiments have proved it to be largely correct. Stommel himself made numerous voyages on research vessels to verify the accuracy of his findings.

Stommel's introduction to oceanography was almost accidental. He had graduated from Yale with a bachelor of science degree in 1942, and had begun to take a graduate class in astronomy just before the advent of Pearl Harbor. "I was finding the mathematics beyond my understanding," he wrote in one of his last books, published in 1987. "I was also caught in a dilemma: my pacifist upbringing forbade me to take an aggressive part in the war." For a time he solved the problem by teaching navigation to US Navy students. Then the astrophysicist, Lyman Spitzer found a research job for him at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, working on anti-submarine warfare. "That seemed more justifiable to my conscience than bombing civilian populations," he wrote, "but I have never felt easy with it."

While many scientists left the institution by the end of the war to resume their peacetime careers, Stommel found himself so fascinated by the ocean that he stayed on. In 1960, though he had never earned an advanced degree, he was made professor of oceanography at Harvard University, moving to the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology three years later. He returned to Woods Hole in 1978 and

continued his research there until his death, though he was officially retired. His latest findings will be published posthumously.

Among his many awards, Stommel received the National Medal of Science in 1989. He was given honorary doctorates by Yale, Chicago, and Gothenburg universities, and was a foreign member of the Royal Society, besides being a member of the National Academy of Sciences and of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. His books were both popular and scientific, including notably *Volcano Weather: The Year Without a Summer*, which was co-authored with his wife and published in 1983. It chronicled the world-wide effects of a volcanic eruption in 1816.

Henry Stommel is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, two sons and one daughter.

FEB 11 ON THIS DAY 1935



The power output of British aircraft engines rose greatly in the 1930s and 1940s closely related to the development of higher octane fuels but the scene was changed with the coming of the jet aircraft which required kerosene.

HIGH POWER AERO ENGINES

The power output of British aero-engines has risen during the last year by about 25 per cent without any corresponding increase in weight or size. The improvement is explained by the adoption of fuel of a higher "knock" rating, but this change was preceded by development work to meet heat troubles. There are signs now that suggest still further advance provided arrangements can be made for fuel of yet higher "knock" rating to be used in this country. If that hope should be realized, the petrol engine will have returned a remarkable challenge to the threat of the heavy-oil engine.

The trend of advance towards high output may be discovered in the course of a visit to the works of the Bristol Aeroplane Company. The Jupiter engine, which, during a period of eight years, went forward from a yield of 13.8 h.p. for every litre to 20.9 h.p. for the same volume, is now being superseded by the Pegasus, which gives 32 h.p. for every litre. The engine is the same in general design and volume: it has a higher rate of revolutions: its materials have been improved in respect of strength and fitness for large-scale production. With the rise in output has gone a great improvement in the ratio of weight to power, and lately in petrol consumption. The weight of the latest Pegasus represents only 1.08lb. for every h.p.

Mr. A. H. R. Fedden, who has been responsible for this

advance at Bristol, prophesied the ultimate doubling of output for a given displacement when the Pegasus first came into service. Fully half that prophecy has been realized and there is no reason to suppose that the limit has been reached even with the fuel at present available. On that point the engine designer is not prepared yet to commit himself, but on the allied subject of raising power with the help of fuel of a higher rating he is certain that something like a further 25 per cent of power might be obtained. That is to say that the radial engine rated at something like 1,000 h.p. and consuming only about 0.4lb. of fuel every h.p.-hour might be expected to produce 1,250 h.p. on the same fuel.

The point of uncertainty which at present affects this prospect is that of the supply of the higher octane fuel. The present fuel of the R.A.F. is described by the octane number 87. Fuel with an octane rating of about 100 would have to be adopted to allow the full increase of which the modern engine is capable, and it is not certain yet that a steady supply of the requisite "dope" could be assured in times of emergency. All these estimates are concerned at the moment with the orthodox engine fitted with poppet valves. Another important advance is promised by the sleeve-valve engine, which will probably not go into production before next year. This gives a marked economy in fuel and oil, and seems even better able to transfer heat to the cooling surfaces than does the ordinary engine.

A year has already been spent in trying to find a weak spot in the new engine. This year Imperial Airways is to try four of the kind in regular service. If its promise is fulfilled, the march towards higher output and fuel economy will have been advanced a step farther. At the moment the air-cooled engine holds the advantage. The faster aeroplane in the R.A.F. uses a Bristol Mercury. It is about to be challenged by new, high-powered engines of the water-cooled type.

MTS drops bid to buy the port of Medway

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MARITIME Transport Services (MTS) has pulled out of the contest to buy the port of Medway, Kent, raising the possibility that the port's managers will make the only final bid.

The decision reflects bewilderment and frustration at MTS, which failed to secure the assets of Tees & Hartlepool, the first trust port to be privatised, despite offering £22 million more than the successful bidder.

Geoffrey Parker, chairman of MTS, also blamed the high cost in both money and management time imposed on would-be buyers by the rush to privatise five of Britain's

biggest trust ports ahead of the election.

MTS, which operates the Isle of Grain container terminal within the Medway Port Authority conservancy area, was regarded as the strongest private sector contender for Medway because of its local knowledge and record of job creation.

Mr Parker sought meetings with officials at the Department of Transport after Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, approved the Tees & Hartlepool Port Authority's (THPA) decision to sell its business to Teesside Holdings, a consortium backed by Powell Duffryn, the engineering and transport group.

Both MTS and a TPHA employee consortium claimed criteria for selecting the winning bidder had changed during the bidding process. Mr Parker said: "The department were as helpful as they could be, but they were still saying that the decision was going to be made on a subjective basis."

MTS has decided to withdraw its indicative bid for Medway and is most unlikely to bid for either Tilbury or Clyde, the two other ports most advanced down the privatisation track.

Medway, with an annual turnover of £30.5 million in 1990 and operating profits of almost £1 million, is now Britain's fourth-biggest trust port.

It is also the biggest private-sector employer on the Isle of Sheppey, with a workforce of more than 650.

Members of the Medway Port Authority, who are responsible for the sale of the port assets, are believed to have extended the deadline for final bids for the port, which was to have been February 3, in an effort to attract more interest.

The withdrawal of MTS in such circumstances will add to the difficulties faced by the port authority and its advisers, the accountancy firm Grant Thornton, in their efforts to achieve the best return for the taxpayer.

Bachmann Group returns to managers

BY MATTHEW BOND
AITKEN Hume International, the financial services group, has announced it is to sell Bachmann Group, its Guernsey subsidiary, back to its management for £17.8 million.

The sale settles the dispute between Aitken Hume and Bachmann over the amount of deferred consideration due under a 1987 agreement in which Aitken Hume bought Bachmann for £8 million but was liable to pay up to a further £23 million in profit-related payments.

Last September, Aitken Hume's accounts were qualified by its auditors, after Bachmann — having already received some £7 million in performance payments — claimed a further £4.2 million. Aitken Hume offered only £2.3 million.

Yesterday's settlement sees Bachmann's claim paid in full, a decision which enabled an early agreement to be reached according to Ziad Idilby, chairman of Aitken Hume. Mr Idilby stressed that the disposal was entirely amicable and pointed out that Bachmann would still be managing Bachmann Bank, the Guernsey bank that, despite its name, is 100 per cent owned by Aitken Hume.

"We did not agree with the figures, but we did not go to arbitration because we wanted to settle the matter once and for all," Mr Idilby said, describing the settlement as a wonderful news for Aitken Hume. However, the company admitted that the disposal would dilute earnings in the year to March 1993.

As part of yesterday's settlement, Aitken Hume will buy Bachmann's 23.9 per cent stake in the company, together with some convertible preference shares, for £5.6 million. The balance of the settlement, of £11.2 million, effectively buys out the outstanding deferred payments, which could have been worth a further £16.1 million over the next two years.

Following the share buy-back, Menston Investments and Sifcor Holdings will each have 32 per cent of Aitken Hume's voting rights.

In the year to last March, Bachmann contributed £1.7 million to Aitken Hume's group pre-tax profits of £3 million. Aitken Hume made a pre-tax profit of £2.6 million in the six months to end-September.



Given the works: David Trippier, the environment minister, was in Cambridgeshire, visiting a £50 million extension to Anglian Water's Grafton treatment works, which will bring water treatment there up to EC-imposed standards. The changes will increase the capacity of the works by 20 million gallons a day.

BCI and Rolls to shed 630 jobs

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 630 people, in the North-East and Scotland, will lose their jobs as a result of cutbacks announced by two of Britain's leading manufacturers.

Blue Circle Industries (BCI) is to shed 300 jobs with the closure of its gas boiler manufacturing plant at Birley, Tyne & Wear, and Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine maker, will cut employee numbers at its Hillington components plant, near Glasgow, by 330.

BCI, Britain's biggest manufacturer of gas boilers, will transfer production from its Birley site to its other manufacturing facilities at Padstow, in Lancashire, and Warwick.

The company said the move was an attempt to reduce costs and improve efficiency after a slump in the market last year of 8 per cent.

Rolls-Royce said the Hillington job losses were among 3,000 the aero-engine maker expects to occur this year. The company recently confirmed the closure of its

Leavesden helicopter engine plant, in Hertfordshire, which will cost 1,100 jobs this year and next.

However, the location of other job losses within the 3,000 total is not likely to be detailed until management reviews have been completed.

Rolls is trying to improve efficiency to keep pace with American competition. Sales of aero-engines have been hit by reduced defence spending and a slump in air travel after the Gulf war.

Hillsdown buys Unigate offshoot

BY OUR CITY STAFF

HILLSDOWN Holdings, the international food group, has bought the entire British chicken interests of Unigate for a minimum of £26.6 million and a maximum of £37.6 million.

The deal is the first since Hillsdown's disappointing £280 million rights issue last October and the group is using some of the money raised then to pay for the acquisition.

Hillsdown is paying £18.5 million in cash for the fixed assets of the business and a further £8.1 million in three instalments of £2.7 million during the next three years for the working capital employed by the business.

There is a possible profit-related payment of £3.35 million a year for the next three years, dependent on the successful performance of Hillsdown's combined chicken businesses.

Sir Harry Solomon, Hillsdown's chairman, said the two groups had signed a confidentiality agreement that prevented his revealing the terms of the deal.

The Unigate chicken business lost £6.6 million in the

year to March 1991. Tim Potter, food manufacturing analyst at Smith New Court, says the losses may have risen slightly since then.

The profit-related element of the payout may not be achieved, he said.

The deal consolidates Hillsdown's position as No 1 in the chicken business and gives it a 20 per cent share of the market.

Sir Harry said he did not believe there would be a monopolies problem with the deal. Unigate, as the second-largest producer, held around 6 per cent of the market.

The facilities acquired produce and process a million chickens each week and Hillsdown intends to merge these with its principal chicken companies in the UK, namely Buxted, Harvest, Hermann's and Devon Crest.

Sir Harry said: "The acquisition will enable us to rationalise and compete more effectively in the wider European markets where British poultry quality standards are already recognised as being the highest."

Tempos, page 20

Levitt four on bail until April

ROGER Levitt, chairman of the collapsed Levitt group, yesterday faced a further 37 charges when he appeared at Bow Street Court.

Robert Price, aged 30, of Finchley, north London, formerly financial director of the group, appeared for the first time. He was charged with seven offences, including conspiracy to defraud and fraudulent trading.

Mark Reed, aged 38, of Hampstead, north-west London, is now accused of 29 offences, including theft and false accounting. Alan McNamara, aged 27, of St John's Wood, central London, faces a total of 20 charges.

Mr Levitt, aged 41, of Highgate, north London, now faces 62 charges. They include theft from Frederick Forsyth, the author, false accounting and conspiracy to defraud.

All four were remanded on bail until April 27.

B Gas to float stake in Canada

British Gas is to sell a 15 per cent stake in Consumers Gas, its wholly-owned gas supply business in Ontario, Canada, by a public share-offering.

The offer, which is expected to begin within a month, will fulfil an undertaking given by British Gas to Canadian regulators when the company bought Consumers almost 18 months ago. Proceeds from the sale, which could reach £200 million (£95 million), will go to British Gas's Canadian holding company.

Board ousted

Dissident shareholders have ousted the board of Conroy Petroleum and Natural Resources, the Irish exploration group. Richard Conroy, chairman and founder, was one of 10 directors voted off the board. A new eight-man board has been put in place.

Equitable buy

Equitable Capital Management Corporation, an American fund manager, has raised its shareholding in ADT from 5 per cent to 6 per cent.

CRA blow

The profit report of CRA, Australia's biggest miner, will be affected by a writedown of Bougainville Copper assets. The Papua New Guinea company reports a consolidated net loss of 313.2 million kina (£180 million).

BCCI payout

Depositors at Abu Dhabi branches of the liquidated Bank of Credit and Commerce International will receive in April an initial compensation of 40 per cent of their assets, officials there said.



Bond: appealing

Bond Corp report warns of criminal charges

FROM BRIAN BUCHANAN IN SYDNEY

CRIMINAL charges may be laid against a number of senior business figures associated with the former Bond group companies. A two-year investigation by the Australian Securities Commission (ASC) has identified "major breaches of the law".

The ASC yesterday delivered a 600-page interim report to the director of public prosecutions (DPP) on Australia's biggest corporate crime enquiry, which looked into the collapsed Bond Corp group and associates.

Tony Hartnell, the ASC chairman, said yesterday: "Bond Corp was one of the world's most spectacular corporate collapses and we owed the markets and the investing public, both here and abroad, an explanation. Anything that was said had to be based on proper investigation and had to be subject to due process."

The ASC said the breaches "may give rise to criminal prosecution of a number of individuals who formerly held office in the Bond group of companies and its associates".

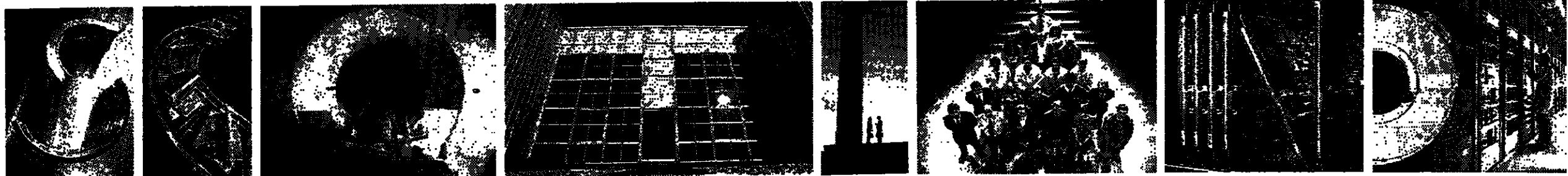
A copy of the report has been sent to Michael Duffy, the federal attorney-general. Mr Duffy said he had asked the Commonwealth DPP to advise him whether publication would prejudice any possible legal action. Murray Allen, a Western Australian ASC official, said it would be "weeks rather than months" before the first brief was given to the DPP and a "significant number" of people from the former Bond group could face prosecution. "We have identified serious contraventions of the law but the weight of evidence is a matter for the DPP," he said.

The ASC said its report focused on Bond Corp's use of Aus\$1.2 billion of cash reserves from the Bell Resources group and the lending of large sums from companies in the JN Taylor

group to Dalhold Investments, the family company of Alan Bond, the former Bond Corp chief.

The National Companies and Securities Commission, the ASC's predecessor, forced Bond Corp to make a full bid for Bell Group in 1988. This gave Bond control of Bell Resources and JN Taylor.

Mr Bond was outside Australia last night and could not be contacted. He is fighting a bankruptcy notice issued by a banking syndicate for Aus\$259m. He has won a hearing before the High Court this Friday to appeal against a Supreme Court decision in favour of the banks.



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Scottish Enterprise

A victory for common sense

It is never easy for a layman to know whether one court case may set a precedent for another. In matters as complex as insurance law, it is more likely that each one hangs on distinct and different issues.

But it would nevertheless be surprising if the out-of-court settlement won by Lloyd's names in the Outhwaite case did not lead other aggrieved names to try their hands at litigation too. No matter that liability has not been tested in the Outhwaite case. Determined action in the face of considerable difficulty has yielded a benefit to those who refused to accept defeat.

Few names will wish to find themselves in the position of 600 Outhwaite syndicate members who decided not to stump up further good money to pursue their claims through the court and are now excluded from the settlement. Insofar as there may now be an increasingly litigious tendency after a famous victory for names, fresh problems have been created for Lloyd's, which has a number of entirely unconnected disputes on its hands.

However, as in so many cases at Lloyd's, relief for one group of names brings pain for others. Part of the settlement will be met by errors and omissions syndicates at Lloyd's. Some names will gain with their right hand and lose with their left.

Lloyd's has another couple of years of appalling trading to cope with before its results pick up, other things being equal, along with the underwriting cycle. It will need, throughout this difficult period, to attract fresh capital and maintain the support of existing names.

Through his role in encouraging both sides of the Outhwaite dispute to meet each other and discuss possibilities for settlement, David Coleridge, Lloyd's chairman, has made a positive contribution.

If these developments facilitate a resolution of other outstanding disputes within the community of Lloyd's, so much the better. But it is not at all clear that the others are as suitable a case for treatment as Outhwaite.

Bumping along

Searching for the recovery is a painstaking business these days. Surely it is there somewhere if only we could find it. The Bank of England, provided it does not wield its telescope with the diplomatic use of Nelson's eye-patch, will have a go today, and everyone has opportunities later in the week to cast a magnifying glass on capital spending statistics or the latest bulletin on industrial output.

Yesterday's credit figures illustrate the frustrations. The fall in credit outstanding in December was one of the biggest on record, showing consumers determinedly paying off their debts. There is, however, some relief. New consumer credit advanced by finance houses, on the main credit cards and in non-mortgage credit from building societies, was up 8 per cent between November and December on seasonally adjusted figures and was 7 per cent higher than December 1990. This seems to confirm the message from Infolink, the credit information supplier, that there were 8 per cent more credit searches in December than a year earlier. This does not allow for the increasing choosiness of lenders but the official figures give some credence to Infolink's report of a recovery in credit demand in January.

In retrospect, consumer demand may well have turned the corner already. But new credit in December was still lower than in April or July. Without the benefit of hindsight, credit, like so many measures of demand and output, still appears to be bumping along the bottom.

Seville prepares to welcome the world on a voyage of discovery

Expo 92 is on target to open in two months' time. Harry Debelius looks behind the scenes at Spain's confident management of this international showcase

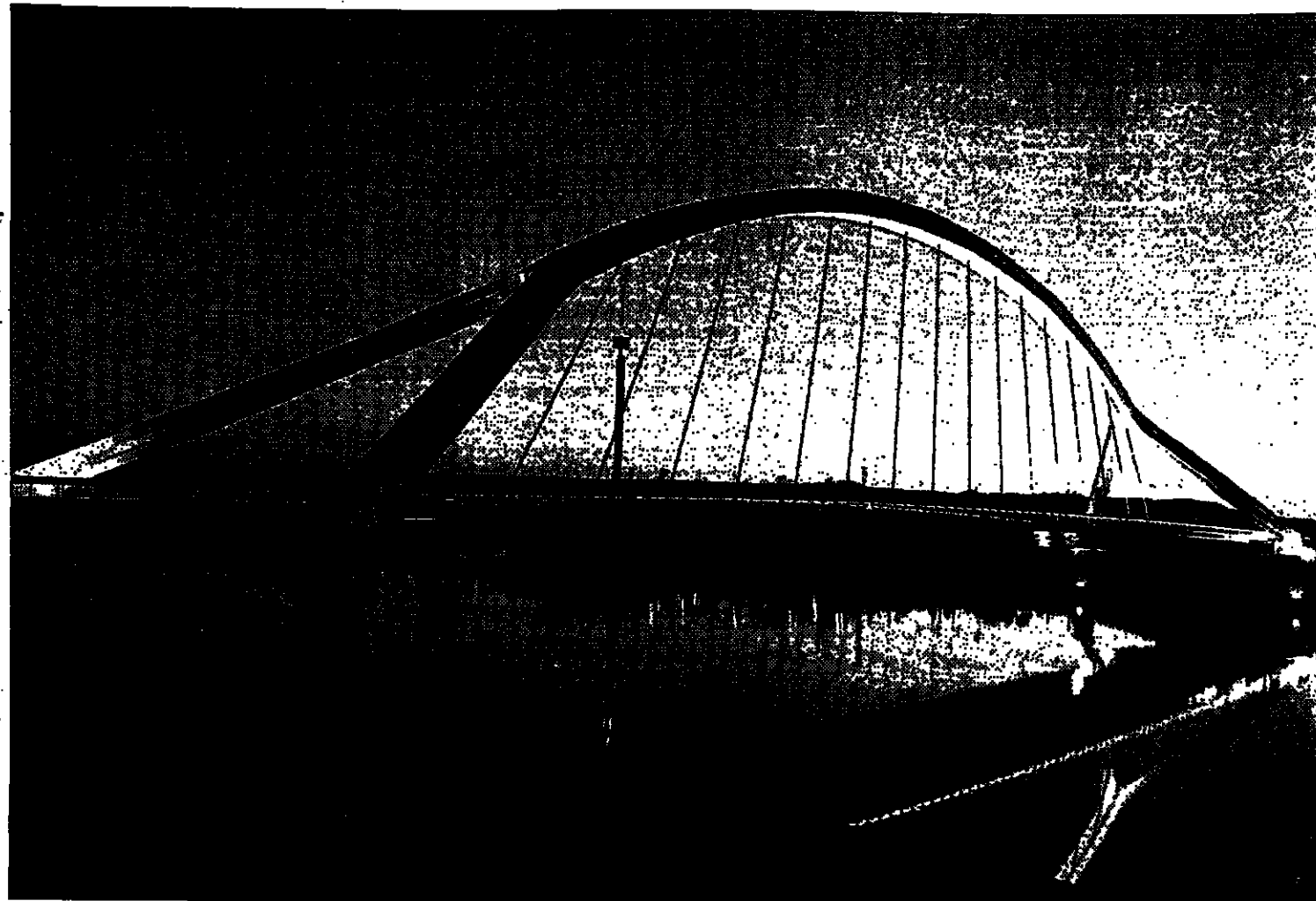
Barry two months before the opening of what can legitimately claim to be the greatest show on earth, the organisers of Seville's Expo 92 continue to accumulate records. No previous world exposition has achieved Expo's level of international participation, with nearly 100 countries represented, and a total of 111 exhibition pavilions, including thematic ones and those occupied entirely by individual companies.

Despite the many recent changes in the political map of the world and what that implies for an international exhibition, Expo officials confidently say their fair will be ready on time. A preview tour of the fairgrounds, where many of the buildings are finished and workmen are putting in overtime to complete others, confirmed that impression.

Only a handful of pavilions leave any doubt. They include South Africa, which came in late after an international embargo was lifted; Israel, which took too long to decide whether or not to take part; Kuwait, whose project was delayed by the Gulf war; Yugoslavia, for obvious reasons, and — curiously — the Red Cross. No doubt most of them will be ready, for it is in the interest of exhibitors to be there on time.

The sheer magnitude of Expo 92 will be the first surprise for the 18 to 25 million visitors it is expected to draw between the grand opening on April 20 and the grand finale on October 12, the 500th anniversary of Columbus's first landing in the Americas. So huge is the site on the specially reshaped Cartuja island in the Guadalquivir river, with its gardens, plazas and broad shaded walkways, that even the parking lot, with space for 45,000, including 15,000 buses or other over-sized vehicles, will get a mention as the world's biggest in the next edition of the Guinness Book of Records. Visitors will reach the site via a number of new bridges, including the elegant Barqueta Bridge, joining the city with Cartuja island.

Expo deserves the "greatest show on earth" title not merely because of the countless exhibits which it encompasses: it will also make show business history with 55,000 entertainment events, 35,000 of which will be free of charge. These include thousands of activities in the many pavilions; non-stop street performances by clowns, actors, jugglers, magicians, musicians and others, in the Expo grounds; several daily open-air concerts by musical groups and orchestras of all kinds; and seated-audience performances in Expo's big outdoor theatre and various theatres in the centre of Seville. Staging this biggest show took



Span-ish elegance: the Barqueta, one of several bridges built for Expo 92, will carry visitors across the Guadalquivir

some giant-sized financial management. Originally projected from the experience of previous international expositions, Expo 92's overall budget was estimated in 1986 at slightly less than 65 billion pesetas (£340 million). From the start, the intention of its organisers was to balance the books in the end.

Within four years the original budget estimate had doubled, not so much as a result of cost overruns as of the surprisingly favourable reception Expo was getting abroad. The event had to be scaled up, allowing for more pavilions and, consequent-

ly, more investment in infrastructure. By the end of last year, according to official figures, the budget estimate had grown to nearly three times the original.

Organisers now have no doubt that, by the time the exposition has closed its doors next autumn, the overall figure will be more than Pta200 billion. That does not include spending by the exhibitor countries and firms. The books are still expected to balance. Revenue

will come from admission tickets, franchises, commissions, sponsors, a grant from the International Co-operation Agency to aid construction of a joint pavilion for countries that could not participate on their own, special national lottery drawings and postage stamps.

The key factor in making the debts match the credits will be the value put on the vast infrastructure and the permanent buildings owned by Expo at the time of liquidation.

The sheer magnitude of Expo 92 will be the first surprise for the 18 to 25 million visitors it is expected to draw by the close in October

One of those buildings has already been spoken for by the Andalusian regional government; several others are to become part of a technological study centre that will prolong indefinitely the economic life of Cartuja Island.

The very vastness of Expo has brought organisers some king-sized headaches, but Emilio Casinello, the commissioner general of the exposition, says his Expo team is not suffering now. Even the upheaval in eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union, which provoked fears of acres of abandoned, unfinished pavilions, was dealt with rapidly and efficiently for the most part. The Russian-dominated Commonwealth of Independent States has taken over the big Soviet pavilion, and the Baltic states managed to build separate pavilions of their own. Poland and Bulgaria joined forces to present a single joint pavilion.

The UK is present with one of the largest buildings on the site — much bigger, for example, than the recession-dogged American pavilion, which had to be scaled down from its original ambitious proportions due to a lack of commercial sponsors. Following the overall theme of Expo 92 — discovery — Britain will show off its technological achievements in a blockish, glass-and-steel building as big as Westminster Abbey, incorporating the biggest water-wall ever built and situated, on European Boulevard at International Avenue, a prime location.

The building, known as the Cathedral of Water, was designed by Nicholas Grimshaw and Partners

'Britain will show off its achievements in a glass and steel building as big as Westminster Abbey, with the biggest water-wall ever built'

and was built by Trafalgar House Construction Management, which also built the futuristic Dutch pavilion. There was no suggestion of the British showing up late for the party, incidentally. Britain was the first participating country to present its project, on July 24, 1989; and early this month workmen were putting finishing touches on the building and testing the water-wall.

The Japanese, by contrast, have decided to present their technology in a low-key manner. In what is billed as the largest wooden building in the world, visitors will be regaled with exhibits on Japanese culture, art and history. Among the displays is a collection of ceramic tiles reproducing famous European and Asian master paintings. The tiles are traditional, but the process by which the images were flawlessly reproduced on their surface is — inevitably — high-tech.

Complete with its own clinic and a fleet of ambulances, Expo will be able to handle 500 sick people a day; arrangements have been made for beds in hospitals in and near Seville if necessary. It has its own fire department and a special centre for lost children.

Tests, conducted by opening the gates to the people of Seville for a preview, show that the calculations of planners, that Expo can comfortably handle up to 250,000 visitors a day, are correct. According to Señor Casinello, the commissioner general, saturation point would be reached if the number of visitors rose as high as 430,000 on any given day. In that case, no more would be allowed in.

The organisers are expecting up to 25 million visitors during the six months of the event but one variable that is hard to calculate is the number of days the average visitor will spend at Expo. Officials are recommending a minimum of three days; if people take them at their word it will mean near-capacity crowds every day.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Furlong takes it a bit easier

JIM Furlong, one of the 50 or so people recruited en masse from the ruins of Drexel Burnham Lambert by County NatWest two years ago, resigned on Friday as head of its US equities desk in London. Furlong, who earned more than \$1 million a year, now plans to launch his own recruitment consultancy, specialising in the US equities market. "County is now far and away the leading UK firm in US equities," he says. "It is doing 1.6 per cent of New York Stock Exchange volume and last year it did \$1 billion in US equity financings. Prior to that it had done nothing." As for his reason for leaving, Furlong, aged 37, says: "I have been in this business for 14 years now, I have made a lot of money but I want to try something new. I also no longer want to have to work five days a week. I want to spend a bit more time with my children. They are aged three and five and I hardly knew them." The recruitment consultancy, to be called Furlong Associates, "It will specialise in recruiting US equities producers, in sales, research and trading, for US equity firms. There are people doing it already but very few who really understand the US equity business."

Billy remembered

BILL Anderson, known within the London stockbroking community as Big Bad Billy, died late on Saturday night at a hospital near his San Diego home in California. He was 61. Anderson, a colourful City character who began his



"You won't lend me anything."

broking career at Tether & Greenwood, went on to Parimure Gordon, became joint senior partner of Guy Puckle (joint with his long-time friend Bill Collins) and then worked for Earnshaw Haes and, until his retirement a year ago — and his move to America for tax reasons — Walker Crips. A big, stocky man, partial to gold jewellery and permanently sun-tanned, he married for the second time three years ago and fathered a third child, Kimberley, now two. His wife, Rosie, was in Britain, undergoing medical treatment, when he died. Trevor Bass, of City Financial PR, said: "He was a tremendous character, very generous, a keen supporter of stock exchange charities and great fun to be with." Golf was his overriding passion, he became a member of the Variety Club of Great Britain Golfing Association, and he suffered a heart attack while travelling back from Portugal, where he had taken part in the Jimmy Tarbuck Golfing Classic.

Radler's law

Perhaps the staff at the *Daily Telegraph* should be told. David Radler, Conrad Black's right-hand man within Hollinger Incorporated — he is the president and chief operating officer while Black is the chairman and chief executive officer — has explained his management philosophy for newspapers. Radler, speaking in Canada where Hollinger, which owns 262 papers including *The Daily Telegraph*, has the company's headquarters, said: "I visit the office of each prospective property at night and count how many desks there are. That tells me how many people work there. If the place has, say, 42 desks, I know that I can put that paper out with 30 people, and that means a dozen people will be leaving the payroll even though I have not seen their faces yet." As a little aside, he then added: "I don't audit each newspaper's editorials day by day, but if it should come to a matter of principle, I am ultimately the publisher of all these papers. And if editors disagree with us, they should disagree with us when they're no longer in our employ. The buck stops with the ownership. I am responsible for meeting the payroll; therefore, I will ultimately determine what the papers say and how they're going to be run."

What's in a name? The new chairman of P-E International, George Cox, was chairman of selectors for British rowing from 1978 to 1980. He once worked for a firm of management consultants — Urwick, Orr & Partners.

CAROL LEONARD

Forecasts of Lloyd's results

From Mr A.C.L. Sturge, Chatset

Sir, We are sorry that Mr Wilding (*Business Letters*, February 4) finds our forecast for Lloyd's for 1991 alarmist and irresponsible.

Our predictions are based on the overall market figures at the end of the September quarter 1991, and take into account all relevant factors which make up the bottom line result to Names. We have included estimated figures for topping up of old year reserves and deficiencies on

Index-linked gilts

From Mr D. Gilling-Smith

Sir, Hugh Wynne-Griffiths (*Business Letters*, January 29) misses the key points in my article (January 24) in which I put the case for further issues of index-linked gilts with maturity dates up to 2040. In particular:

1. Long-dated index-linked gilts are the only matching investment that enable an insurance company to offer index-linked annuities.
2. One of the few ways in which trustees of private-sector pension funds can guarantee index-linked pensions is to buy index-linked annuities for member and spouse at the date of retirement. This practice has not only been a godsend to many members of small self-administered schemes, but also to members of large funds.
3. I cited a man retiring at 60 with a spouse of 50 who might live to her 90s — what other investment can enable the provider to guarantee an inflation-proof pension over a 40-year period?

Mr Wynne-Griffiths is perfectly correct in stating that he did better with equities in the equity boom of the mid-

1980s. I am sure he did well in the property boom if he got out before property took a nosedive. But it's horses for courses.

My Wynne-Griffiths contradicts his argument that index-linked gilts are a bad buy for pension funds in arguing that they appear to be a rotten deal for government/the taxpayer.

My belief is that index-linked gilts enable private-sector employers to offer the index-linked income security in old age enjoyed by members of public sector schemes, so that we avoid a "we" and "them" divide. It is also my belief that with the requirement to fund some £30 billion of debt over the next 12 months, government could, in present market conditions, pay less for its money by issuing a substantial proportion in the form of index-linked gilts.

Apart from insurance companies, a lot of pension funds might be takers. There should be a mutual benefit to us as taxpayers and as present and future pensioners.

Yours faithfully,

A.C.L. STURGE,
Co-Editor, Chatset, SW1.

Names pay the price of apathy

From Mr M.D.J. Chesterman

Sir, The Rowland Report on the future of Lloyd's records that out of the miserably low number of 290 submissions received by the Task Force, a mere 127 came from Names. As a percentage of the current membership of around 22,500, those 127 letters represent 0.5 per cent of Names.

I have it on the highest authority that the chairman's office has received approaching the same number of 127 letters complaining about the Task Force report. Surely Names have only themselves to blame if they could not make their views about Lloyd's and its future known to Rowland in time for his report and in sufficient numbers to indicate a constructive interest, rather than the apathy suggested by the response from the membership of only 0.5 per cent. And to decry the report after its publication suggests both shouting at the fleeing horse that has bolted as well as closing the stable door too late.

There is a case to be made, perhaps, that Names have taken too little interest in the past in the golden goose whilst she was laying her golden eggs, only to condemn her now when she is temporarily eggbound. I speak as an External Name of 20 years' standing, experiencing the same losses as most of the membership.

Yours faithfully,

M.D.J. CHESTERMAN,
Knight's Manor,
Swaffham Prior,
Cambridge.

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M.D.J. CHESTERMAN,
Knight's Manor,
Swaffham Prior,
Cambridge.

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RUGBY UNION

Harlequins drawn at Roehampton in Pilkington Cup

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WITH unerring aim, Peter Yarranton paired Harlequins with Rosslyn Park in the Pilkington Cup quarter-final draw yesterday, four days after the departure of Simon Dear, the England B lock, from the Park to the Quins had caused such ire at Roehampton.

That Yarranton, the president of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), should have done so adds irony to the draw since on Saturday he watched his own club, Wasps, go down to Harlequins, the cup holders. "We'll be all right so long as we don't lose another three to them in the next fortnight," Hugh McHardy, the Park coach, said, trying to lodge his tongue in his cheek.

In fact, the two London clubs met at the quarter-final stage last season. Harlequins winning at home 24-12. On February 22, they will be away, reflecting perhaps on their league meeting with the Park at Roehampton in December when they won 24-12, but this time were

Newcastle Gosforth v Leicester
Orrell v Gloucester
Rosslyn Park v Harlequins
Bristol v Bath
This to be played on February 22

outscored by three tries to none, victory coming courtesy of seven penalty goals and a dropped goal.

Sensibly, McHardy played down the possibility of ill-feeling persisting between the clubs: "In rugby terms, Harlequins are an exceptional team," he said. "We know them very well but games we have played in the past have never been dirty games."

"I think what has come out of it [the Dear affair] is that we don't understand why he chose to go when he did. There's nothing wrong with recruitment, we all do it, but it seems irrational to leave now."

McHardy denied that the cup game might divert attention from the Park's league plight — they have yet to win a game. "Being in the cup keeps the spirits up," he said, and certainly he will have no

problems of motivation, though he regretted that Dear, who is cup-tied, would not be among his players' opponents on Saturday week.

Some giants of the competition will depart after the next round, since Bristol (finalists four times) are drawn at home to Bath (winners on six occasions) and Orrell entertain Gloucester (finalists on four). Theoretically, the east-tie sends Leicester (finalists six times) to Newcastle Gosforth, were it not for the fact that Newcastle have been outscoring all comers at home for most of this season.

Orrell and Gloucester, whose third cup meeting it will be, stand first and second in the league, though their first division encounter is not until the end of March. Orrell had the better of their 1987 cup match, Gloucester gaining revenge a year later, but it will take a brave man to forecast the outcome this time of what will be a thunderous forward encounter but in which the home backs may make the difference.

The Bristol-Bath rivalry is of such long standing that each will know just what to expect from their fourth cup meeting. Bath squeezed home in the 1989 quarter-final 14-12 in a mudbath, and beat Bristol 10-9 at Twickenham in the 1984 final. Bristol won as long ago as 1976 but were not so far distant in the most recent league game, in December, when two penalty goals from Jonathan Webb and a Jeremy Guscott dropped goal outweighed Derek Eves's try.

Murphy will step up

NOEL Murphy, the former Ireland and British Isles flanker, will take over as the Irish team manager after the five nations' championship (David Hands writes).

As successor to Ken Reid, his first responsibility will be as manager of the party to tour New Zealand in May.

Murphy, who coached both his country and the 1980 British Lions, has recently been manager of the successful Ireland under-21 side. England Colts enjoyed a successful first outing at Gosforth, comfortably beating a combined North and Midlands side 46-0.

England have thrown away the textbook

ENGLAND have moved on at last. Moved on to realise the potential that is always there but restrained by too much caution and lack of trust.

It used to be said, probably by us in Wales, that England could play as much rugby as they cared, train as often as they wished, and write erudite textbooks as much as they liked, but they still could not play the game as if they understood it properly. There was no instinct attached to their performance; the game did not run in the blood, as it were. Rugby did not come easily, so that an observer suggested: you can see their players think, you are prepared for the next move.

"Go among the shilling crowd any fine day at the Oval," Cardus wrote about cricket, "and what do you hear? Little technical jargon, little talk of off breaks and the position of the left funny-bone in the late cut." All they are interested in is the beautiful stroke.

England rugby, too often, was literally text book stuff. There were airs and graces. Plenty of good, solid heart. But somehow made to seem manufactured; no instinctive rhythm, no moods and changing colour. Not enough, as Cardus might say, "personality".

Safe usually, and orderly. Too much of the South-East perhaps, and not enough West Country or Midlands. Not enough devil-may-care; a bit short on sporting cunning and twinkle-eyed mischief.

They sidestepped and dummied all right. But they often

made it appear as if they had read about it in some library or other. Apart, quite naturally, from Duckham or Jackson, of Coventry, say.

There were many great players, make no mistake, but the team often appeared inhibited, so that the whole was very rarely the sum of its successful parts.

How things have changed. It is Wales who nowadays look predictable, a national team inheriting the sins of the club.

In their two appearances this season, England have shed their wariness. There is a naturalness to their game. Now, you need to keep your eyes open all the time in case you might miss something.

You can no longer wander while these players have their wits about them. The game's afoot. And do I detect, among the white jerseys, that there is a bit of passion around to prove how good they are?



Webb: not just a kicker

There is a line of continuous movement stretching from 1 to 15: a collective confidence that has blossomed to make Webb more than simply a kicker of goals. Would they, too, a few short months ago have dared to fashion a try for Underwood from a short penalty?

For too long, New Zealand had been the sole influence on British rugby. The All Blacks established the driving force — the forwards game, fluid around half backs and back row. Drive, drive and suck the opposition in. There is much that is right and inescapable about this. But it is not in the character of the European game to stick too firmly to this. Tactics evolve, as Australia showed.

If "suck them in" is the bane of the game in recent years, as Jeff Butterfield recently said, so it is time, as England are now showing, to promote the idea to "let the ball do the work".

There is the nonsensical view that the only way to take players out of the game is to be in physical contact with the opposition. Good timing of the pass takes an opponent out of the game long before the tackle is made.

It is England's significant step forward that they are not following their recent, more rigid practice. They are making the ball do the work.

They have learnt. One day, not now, they may ponder on the costliest last November. It is a blessing to see England play as they are. There is not much fun in seeing a team being less than its true worth.

Johnson returns for England B

MAINTAINING the theme of continuity by which the senior side has prospered, England have made only one change for the B international with France at the Jean Bouin Stadium in Paris on Saturday (David Hands writes). Martin Johnson, the Leicester lock, replaces Mar-

tin Haag from the side that disposed of Ireland 47-15. Johnson was selected for the B international against Spain, but withdrew after suffering concussion in a club match. The selectors now have an opportunity to see whether Johnson has the qualities to return on tour this

summer to New Zealand, where he won under-21 honours.

There may be further changes to the B XV depending upon fitness tests tomorrow evening on Simon Halliday and Richard Hill. Were they to withdraw from the senior XV, the B Squad would be called upon for two replacements.

France are fielding their third XV against England B because their nominal B side, known as France Espoir, is playing Italy in Turin in the FIRA championship.

ENGLAND B: 1 Martin (Leicester), P de Gier (Bath), J Jackson (Saracens), J Ball (Bath), S Barnes (Bath), S Bates (Worcester), O Baldwin (Leicester), G Davis (Bath), A Mullins (Leicester), M Greenwood (Leicester), M Johnson (Leicester), D Sims (Leicester), N Black (Leicester), B Clarke (Bath), R Hargreaves (Leicester), G Thompson (Leicester), A Armstrong (Leicester), O Scott (Worcester), V Ugochi (Bath), R Cockrill (Coventry), V Cresswell (Saracens).



Locked on target: Sharon Edgeler, a wren WA representing the Royal Navy, lines up her next shot in the women's inter-services championship at Guildford yesterday. The Navy's rifle team retained its title, recovering from a 12-point deficit to the Army team at the halfway stage and a two-point gap as the last round began. The Royal Air Force were third. Results, page 27

Sailing through murky waters

San Diego

Simon Barnes is richly fascinated by plots beneath the America's Cup water line

THE America's Cup is the third most important sporting event in the world, after the Olympic Games and the football World Cup. That, at any rate, is what they are telling us out here. Presumably, nobody here has heard about the Super Bowl, Wimbledon tennis, Formula One, the FA Cup final, the world athletics championships and the world heavyweight boxing championship.

The America's Cup is a sporting backwater in which some of the richest and most ambitious men in the world play a mixture of chess, poker, Monopoly and toy-boats-in-the-bath. My hero is Bill Koch (say "cok"), president of the America's Cup syndicate (say "America cubed"), who has put up \$30 million (say "that'd help me with the mortgage") of his own money and insists on driving the boat himself.

However, money like that does not awake the green-eyed monster in Il Moro di Venezia. The Italians — to be more specific, Raul Gardini — are working on a budget of \$120 million. For 120 million bucks, I'd want something with a bit more oomph at the lights myself, though I'm told these boats can go ten miles an hour and more.

Points in common between Koch and Gardini: both were born in money, both had massive family rows about control (Koch

through the courts), and both ended up with fortunes. After victories like these, there are not many spicy challenges left in the world. America's Cup racing is such a challenge.

This is the event that has everything except spectator appeal. It is essentially esoteric: the challenges are technical, organisational, managerial, Machiavellian. The most important bit of boat is below the water line: the most important part of an America's Cup campaign is below the surface.

The rules are strange, and used to be something to do with the square root of something. The history is ancient and bizarre. More time has been spent in the board-room and the courts than in the water. In the late twentieth century, the America's Cup brings us back to Renaissance Italy: nothing is what it seems, money and power are everywhere, everything is amenable to influence, everybody is plotting behind every arras, and everyone wants to be *il principe*.

Thus, the merchant princes of the modern world turn

up to duel with flair, fortune and force of personality. A billionaire may not be able to score goals, or knock out Mike Tyson, or ride thoroughbreds, but when it comes to negotiating, these people could play for the galaxy. This is the sport where the toughest minds in the world attempt to *winny the rules*.

His expression was allegedly used by Tom Ehman, executive director of the America's Cup organising committee, when talking about the maverick New Zealand challenge of 1988 — the match that ended up with a New Zealand boat that was like the Cutty Sark, only bigger, racing against a catamaran that looked like a pond-skater, with that old rogue Dennis Connor driving.

"We'll just jimmy the rules and jerk them around, just like the New York Yacht Club did for 132 years," Ehman is supposed to have said at the time. Needless to say, he adamantly denies this. However, he is now known as Jimmy-the-Rules Ehman — and he has given the America's Cup the perfect motto. Well, if you want an expert on how to jimmy the rules, the first person you would try is a billionaire.

But these people are not, in the main, mad publicity-seekers. Some like the limelight more than others: but the fact of the matter is that the America's Cup is not the ideal vehicle for global pub-

licity. The sport just doesn't have the following. As for making fortunes, well, Peter de Savary, who couldn't afford to go this time, and Alan Bond, under investigation for alleged financial malpractices, are not the finest advertisements for the profitability of the America's Cup.

Funding is rife. The organising committee is fatally split between its need to find an American defender of the America's Cup, and the need to organise a regatta. A row about what the committee has done with money it was paid for television rights will run and run.

And there is little sense of occasion here. In Fremantle in 1987, the cup was the focal point of the town, and the waterfront was like a Formula One pit lane for four months. But they demanded so much money for

waterfront berths in San Diego that the event has scattered all over town, and the town is largely indifferent to it all. "The America's Cup needs Auckland more than Auckland needs the America's Cup," Sir Michael Fay, who runs the New Zealand syndicate, said. For some reason, this America's Cup has yet to set the world's imagination on fire.

And yet the event was blessed with one of the great moments in sport. 1983, when the underdog Australian challenger overtook Conner at the end of the last race in the series. Pure magic. Only sport can do this.

Everybody went bats, predicting that this was the sport of the future, and so on. But it is not. For example, here in the United States, the television coverage is on cable: the 24-hour sports channel, ESPN. The top networks do not want to buy four months of interminable milling about on lumpy water.

Most sports operate on the what-you-see-is-what-you-get principle. But here, the preparation, the scheming, the below-the-surface stuff is all. Conner said the other day: "The America's Cup has already been won and lost. It's just we don't know the result." That, for those inside this esoteric sport, is the eternal fascination. And that, as far as a mass audience is concerned, is its eternal weakness.



Conner: overtaken

BASKETBALL

Decisions upset Kingston

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THE seemingly ever-widening rift between players and officials needs to be partially bridged this week, at least, if the last third of the season is not to be completed amid a background of increased acrimony.

With only five points separating Kingston and Worthing before the second leg of the National Cup semi-final at Tolworth tomorrow, it is as well that two respected officials, Howard Cleaton and Will Jones, will be in charge. Both of Kingston's last two games, the first leg of the semi-final at Worthing last week, and Saturday's home Carlsberg League fixture against London Towers, were notable as much for controversy as the manner of Kingston's victories.

"It's something we have to live with, but the main problem is keeping the guys' frustration levels down," Kevin Cadie, the Kingston coach, said. "But just because it's the same for both teams doesn't mean that we have to be happy about it."

Ironically, it was when London failed to capitalise on the most controversial decision of them all, a charging foul against Alton Byrd, that Kingston took charge of Saturday's game, romping to a 99-85 success that keeps them on the heels of Thames Valley Tigers in the championship race, and augurs well for their forthcoming cup-tie.

Thames Valley won easily at home, 108-81, against a Birmingham Bulls squad subjected to further indignity

in front of its home crowd the following evening by Derby, who won 89-65.

After five successive defeats, the latest 86-84 at Leicester on Saturday, Manchester finally came good with a 102-78 victory at Cheshire Jets, who had just returned from a defeat of similar proportions, 99-72, at Worthing. Worthing demonstrated some of the form, from Hubbard (24 points) and Baker (23) in particular, that Kingston will have to counter tomorrow. "We've got to perform," Cadie said.

With Tigers resuming 18 points to the good in the other semi-final second leg at Leicester on Thursday, the Bracknell club, at least, seems assured of reaching next month's final in Sheffield.

HOCKEY

Hightown aim for European goal

By ALIX RAMSAY

WITH their eyes on Europe next weekend, Hightown flexed their muscles to win the national indoor clubs' championship on Sunday, showing themselves to be the better organised side on the day, and ready to take on the best Europe has to offer.

Under the guidance of their England indoor coach, Maggie Souyave, they came through the weekend unbeaten, scoring 22 goals in the

group matches on Saturday before brushing aside Slough 5-2 in the semi-finals, and Chelmsford 4-2 in the final. Doncaster were also unbeaten in the pool matches, claiming the scalp of Slough along the way. But in the semi-final they could not find an answer to the sharp shooting of Jo Green, who scored four goals to lead Chelmsford to a 7-3 victory.

Jackie Crook did the dam-

age for Hightown in the final, equalising in a tight first half after Green had given Chelmsford an early lead, and then scoring another two after the break to put the game beyond Chelmsford's reach. She and Linda Carr had also both scored twice against Slough.

Now, Hightown travel to Frankfurt next weekend, hoping to reproduce the form and lift the European indoor title.

POOLS FORECAST

DRAW specialists are usually worth following and Port Vale come into that category. They have already drawn 12 second division matches, seven of them at home. Expect them to increase that number when they play host to Leicester City.

Peterborough United, of the third division, are also the pools punters' friend, with tenders this season. Another one looks likely in their home game against Stockport County.

Only two positions and no points separate Exeter City,

who are declining, from Swansea City, who are improving. Exeter are another side with the draw habit, so the odds must favour a stalemate.

Farnborough Town's third position in the GM Vauxhall Conference is down to their away form. At home, they have lost more than they have won, and their opponents, Kidderminster Harriers, although in the lower half of the table, could capitalise. It should be noted that Kidderminster held the leaders, Colchester United last Friday.

Saturday February 15

FA CUP
FIFTH ROUND
Not on coupons: Bolton v Southampton (Sunday); Chelsea v Sheffield United; Ipswich v Liverpool or Bristol Rovers (Sunday); Norwich v Notts County; Nottingham Forest v Bristol City; Portsmouth v Middlesbrough; Sunderland v West Ham; Swindon v Aston Villa (Sunday)

FIRST DIVISION
1 Man City v Luton
1 Oldham v QPR
Not on coupons: Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday; Liverpool v Wimbledon (promoted Liverpool lose FA Cup replay)

SECOND DIVISION
2 Barnsley v Southend
2 Port Vale v Leicester
Not on coupons: Blackburn v Newcastle; Brighton v Oxford; Cambridge v Charlton; Derby v Bristol Rovers (promoted Rovers lose FA Cup replay); Millwall v Gillingham

THIRD DIVISION
1 Brentford v Torquay
1 Bury v Luton
2 Dagenham v Huddersfield
2 Exeter v Swindon
1 Hartlepool v Preston

TREBLE CHANGE (home teams): Port Vale, Exeter, Peterborough, Swindon, Farnborough, Middlesbrough, Torquay, White Bay, Carlisle, Hayes, QPR

BEST DRAB: Huddersfield, Port Vale, Exeter, Farnborough, Torquay, QPR, Colchester, Burton

AWAYS: Huddersfield, Swindon, Bolton, Colchester, Burton

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HOMES: Oldham, Bury, West Brom, Walsley, Cardiff, Kettering, Redbridge, Torquay, Fleetwood, QPR, Grays, Crawley, Kidderminster, Queens Park Rangers, Colchester, Exeter, Peterborough, Swindon, Farnborough, Middlesbrough, Torquay, White Bay, Carlisle, Hayes, QPR

QPR: Vince Wright

THE TIMES

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Test match fall leaves England bowler in agony with broken kneecap



Frightening fall: David Lawrence, the England fast bowler, screams with pain after breaking his kneecap when he slipped while bowling against New Zealand

Lawrence's career in the balance

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN WELLINGTON

DAVID Lawrence, England's popular, pugilist fast bowler, undergoes surgery here today which will determine if he can play cricket again.

In an incident as gruesome as anything I have seen in this game, Lawrence broke his left kneecap as he fell in his delivery stride during the last session of the drawn third Test match against New Zealand. He was carried off on a stretcher borne by half the England team, screaming with agony, and spent last night under sedation in Wellington Hospital.

Assessments of his career prospects will be made after today's operation, known as a tension band wiring, but at the least he will miss all the coming English season. Last night, Bob Bennett, the tour manager, said: "The injury is major. His kneecap is in two pieces, split horizontally, but although it is severe, I am advised that it does not necessarily mean the end of his career."

Lawrence will remain in hospital for several days and the attendant orthopaedic surgeon, Professor Horn,

warned that it would be at least a fortnight before he is fit enough to be flown home.

The injury created such instant distress within the England party that emotions ran high. A television cameraman, attempting to film the visual and audible agony of Lawrence as he left the field, was pushed aside by the team manager, Mick Stewart, then pursued up a flight of steps by Jack Russell. Other England players showed anger over what they considered an insensitive intrusion.

The cameraman's employers, Television New Zealand, ran an emotive story as the second item on their national bulletin, accusing both Stewart and Russell of assaulting the cameraman, allegations to which the England management was considering a reply when they discussed the matter today.

I saw nothing which could be called an assault. What I did see was a manager and players reacting, as humans do, to a situation few, if any of them had encountered before, the sort which, within a touring environment, is akin to a sudden and serious illness in the family.

Stewart, whose only culpability is to the charge that he

may be too close to his players and too emotional in his defence, said: "The way I conducted myself was to ensure that the people close to Syd [Lawrence], his family and friends, were not greeted on their television by pictures of his suffering. Whatever I did was from a human point of view. As a last resort I believed it necessary to push the camera away."

Russell's reactions were provoked by feelings even more personal. Lawrence is not only a team-mate at Gloucestershire, he has been a close friend since they first played together at school. But he said last night: "At no time did I touch or push or punch anyone. All I did was shout at the cameraman."

The most dispassionate view of the episode came from Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, who probably faced the last ball Lawrence will bowl in a Test match. He said: "I watched it go past off stump and then heard a huge scream. Players around me said they had heard a crack, too, and one England player was visibly very upset."

"I have never seen an injury like it. I have seen no one suffer so much on a sporting field."

Stewart, who has been in-

cluded in cricket and football for 40 years, said: "I have not seen anyone in such excruciating pain as Syd was suffering. He was screaming in agony and he is not someone who shows pain."

Graham Gooch, the England captain, confirmed that his players were "very depressed" about the injury and that it had taken the shine off the 2-0 series win over New Zealand.

Philip August, the Gloucestershire club secretary, said yesterday: "It would be a tragic loss for cricket if he was to be forced into retirement. But if the operation is a success, he should be back training again in four months."

The team physiotherapist, Laurie Brown, accompanied Lawrence to hospital and recounted how he was asking, even in his anguish, how long it would be before he could play again.

Brown recalled footballers who have resumed their careers after similar injuries. Unspoken, but sadly acknowledged, was the discrepancy that Lawrence is 17 stone of muscle whose job is to pound his left foot into the bowling crease upwards of 100 times a day.

Lamb's best, page 26

Surgeon says that injury is reparable

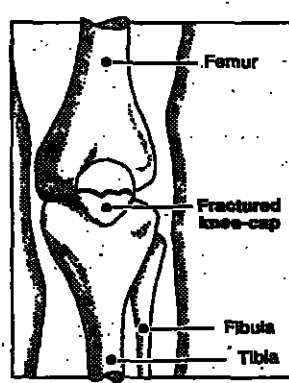
BY THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Lawrence's fractured kneecap should heal after about six weeks, allowing him to regain full mobility and play cricket again, a consultant orthopaedic surgeon in London said yesterday.

Anthony Hall, a specialist in knee injuries at Charing Cross Hospital, west London, said the type of operation to repair Lawrence's broken patella was "straightforward and very successful" unless there were complications.

A member of the International Society of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgeons, Hall said the fracture would have been the result of "tremendous" force on the bone.

The location of the patella, a small bone shaped like an oyster shell between the femur and the tibia, means



it is likely to bear the brunt of a direct impact on the knee.

In the operation, known as tension band wiring, the two parts of the kneecap, separated by a horizontal fracture, are bound together vertically by wire sewn through the surrounding tendon and tied below the fracture.

"He might need a plaster on his leg to facilitate healing of the bone, and he won't be able to think about playing cricket for six weeks, but I would expect him to recover completely," Hall said.

Title retained

James Toney retained his International Boxing Federation middleweight title in Atlantic City on Saturday with a split decision over his fellow-American, Dave Tibert.

Powell sets pace

Jimmy Powell shot a seven-under-par round of 65 on Saturday to take a one-shot lead over Lee Trevino in the Aetna Challenge PGA seniors tournament at the Vinyards Country Club.

Rhyner lifts cup

Jakob Rhyner, of Switzerland, ended Magnus Berg's run of three victories on Sunday, winning the Victoria Cup on Japan's professional ski tour.

Lillistone's lead

Simon Lillistone, the national points race champion, will lead a six-man Great Britain cycling team at an international track series in Cape Town from February 27 to March 10.

Small has surprise World Cup call

FROM ALAN LEE

ENGLAND'S World Cup squad, named here last night, contains one surprise, the selectors going outside their original tour party and recruiting Warwickshire seam bowler, Gladstone Small.

In order to strengthen the bowling attack with Small, there had to be a casualty, and there will be widespread sympathy for the omitted Jack Russell, who has once again discovered that being the best, classical wicket-keeper in the world does not guarantee a place in a limited-overs team.

For Russell, it was a shattering end to a very mixed

day. He had batted for more than two hours to help England save the final Test, then become emotionally involved in scenes following the serious injury to his country colleague, David Lawrence. Three hours later, he was told he must go home next week.

The decision will hit Russell hard, for he has worked tirelessly to revitalise his batting with a World Cup place in mind. Graham Gooch, the captain, explained: "He is very unlucky. He has done everything right out here and had a very good Test series, but I don't think he comes into our best one-day side. I have to pick the side that is best equipped to win the World Cup. Someone is



G A Gooch (capt), A J Stewart, I T Botham, N H Fairbrother, G A Hick, R A Smith, A J Lamb, C C Lewis, J A Reave, P A J DeFreitas, G C Small, D R Pringle, P C R Tufnell, R K Illingworth.

going to find that hard to bear."

Small, who has been in training for the past month, was told of his selection on Sunday and arrives in Christchurch on Thursday. He played in all eight of England's World Cup matches four years ago and Gooch said: "It has been on my mind for two or three weeks that we needed the sort of bowler he is, with specific experience of one-day cricket."

While admitting that it had not been the intention to include anybody outside the initial 16, Gooch pointed out that the party had undergone a change in emphasis when Dermot Reeve, an all-rounder, replaced a specialist seam bowler in the injured Angus Fraser. The other omissions from the party, Mark Ramprakash and David Lawrence, were predictable and Lawrence would not have stayed on even before yesterday's injury.

Alec Stewart, whose appointment as vice-captain covered only the New Zealand leg of the tour, has been confirmed as Gooch's deputy for the competition and, of course, he will also keep wicket.

with Neil Fairbrother pencilled in as the emergency replacement.

While Gooch was able to press for the players he wanted, New Zealand's system, like Australia's, gives the captain no say at all and Martin Crowe was only told when he came off the field at the end of the Test match that he had retained the captaincy in the face of a gathering campaign to oust him.

Small is expected to arrive in New Zealand on Thursday and may play in Saturday's third and final one-day international at Christchurch. England also play the Kiwis in Dunedin on Wednesday.

New Zealand team, page 28

Taylor invites Jones to his England party

BY STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

GRAHAM Taylor yesterday closed the doors to his England squad for the finals of the European championship. In doing so, he opened the competition for perhaps the four remaining vacancies in the team that will line up for the first match against Yugoslavia in Malmö on June 11.

The elimination process, which will eventually cut in half the list of 40 contenders, will begin with the B game against France at Loftus Road on Tuesday. It will end after the last home appearance of the season, against the Brazilians at Wembley on May 17.

Seven places would seem already to have been reserved. Chris Woods, Mark Wright, Des Walker, Stuart Pearce, David Platt, John Barnes and Gary Lineker, the captain, whose international career is to finish in Sweden, are all so firmly established that injury alone is likely to threaten them.

Assuming that Taylor persists with the formation he has employed most consistently, he is looking for a right back, two midfield players and a forward to complete his jigsaw. The most prominent claimants to those positions are respectively either Paul Parker or Lee Dixon, David Rocastle, Geoff Thomas and Alan Smith.

Yet, within the enlarged squad picked for the two games against the French next week, are four potentially more imaginative preferences. The alternative right back, Rob Jones, is the one unfamiliar name among the 30, but even though he is only aged 20 and inevitably inexperienced, his inclusion is no surprise.

A graduate from the same Crewe Alexandra school as Platt and Thomas, he was bought by Liverpool for £300,000 in October. Within two months, he was a regular figure in the side accelerating towards the top of the first division and his qualities have since earned him widespread admiration. He reminds Taylor of Phil Neal, one of his predecessors at Anfield who collected 50 England caps between 1976 and 1984.

"He links up in the same way, is a good passer, particularly with his right foot, and I've not yet seen anybody outrun him," Taylor said. "I've also been very impressed with his maturity." Since Dixon has lost form and Parker is among the casualties (with

COMBINED PARTY (for full and B internationals against France on February 18 and 19; C Woods (Sheffield Wednesday), D Seaman (Arsenal), A Conon (Manchester City), L Dixon (Arsenal), R Jones (Liverpool), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest), A Dorog (Leeds United), D Walker (Nottingham Forest), M Wright (Liverpool), G Pallister (Manchester United), G Mabbitt (Tottenham Hotspur), M Keown (Everton), K Curle (Manchester City), G Thomas (Crystal Palace), D Batty (Leeds United), D Rocastle (Arsenal), L N Webb (Manchester United), P Stewart (Tottenham Hotspur), C Palmer (Sheffield Wednesday), P Ince (Manchester United), G Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur), A Smith (Arsenal), I Wright (Arsenal), D Hirst (Sheffield Wednesday), A Shearer (Southampton), A Cough (Nottingham Forest), P Marston (Arsenal), A Daley (Aston Villa), A Sinton (Queen's Park Rangers), M Le Tissier (Southampton), Standby: N Martin (Crystal Palace), E Barrett (Oldham Athletic), D White (Manchester City), P Beardsley (Everton).

Barnes, Platt, Paul Gascoigne, Mark Hateley and Michael Thomas). Jones could even be catapulted into the senior side at Wembley next Wednesday.

Another adventurous choice would be Matthew Le Tissier, one of the most talented individuals in the country. Although his natural ability is beyond question, as Taylor saw for himself during a tour of Brazil four years ago, his infuriatingly languid attitude has stunted his progress. Unless he shows a more urgent sense of commitment, the 23-year-old from Southampton will go no further.

Yet, while he had already proved his worth before his career was interrupted by a ruptured Achilles tendon, Taylor, who had been waiting for him to regain full fitness, recalled him for the B game in Spain in December and now promises to use his creativity at a more senior level.

"He may not be the quickest of players, but he is always looking to play forward passes," Taylor said. "I like that. He hurts the opposition by taking one or two of them out of the game." England have, for some time, been notably short of such penetrating distribution in midfield.

The forward who could most benefit is David Hirst. Selected only once so far, during the comparatively meaningless tour of the South Pacific last summer, the prolific leader of Sheffield Wednesday's front line could be Lineker's most effective ally.

As Taylor appreciates, there is only one way to find out. Since next season will be filled with World Cup qualifying ties, he has only three months in which to experiment.

Johnston is ignored

ANDY Roxburgh effectively ended the international career of Maurice Johnston yesterday when he dropped him from his squad to face Northern Ireland. Roxburgh, the Scotland coach, named six forwards in his party, including a newcomer, Keith Wright, of Hibernian, for the match at Hampden Park next Wednesday, but Johnston's name was conspicuously absent.

The Irish have recalled their regular captain, the central defender, Alan McDonnald, after missing two games with injuries, and the Sheffield Wednesday midfielder, Danny Wilson, and Newcastle United goalkeeper,

Tommy Wright, come back after missing Northern Ireland's last game against Denmark.

SCOTLAND: A Gorm (Rangers), H Smith (Heart of Midlothian), E Macdonald (Aberdeen), M Mullen (Dundee United), R McPherson (Heart of Midlothian), R Smith (Rangers), D Thomson (Rangers), S Wright (Aberdeen), S McCall (Rangers), P McLeary (Leeds United), J Collins (Celtic), S McCall (Manchester United), G Duff (Manchester United), F Mackay (Newcastle), K Gallacher (Celtic), A McDonald (Rangers), J Robertson (Heart of Midlothian), R Wilson (Rangers).

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The American threat to ice hockey in Russia

Méribel: Christer Rockstrom, the European scout of the New York Rangers ice hockey team, has no problem with Russian red tape these days. The merest mention of Rangers makes the security guard at any door in Moscow melt away. Russia is losing ice hockey stars overseas as fast as nuclear scientists these days. The difference is they are being paid for them.

The owners of Russian hockey teams are operating an effective field. National League (NHL) clubs from America no longer must approach the national federation to purchase players, but instead go straight to the Russian club. So numerous is the stream of players joining the NHL that Russian players are said to be re-shaping the American game.



THE OLYMPIC event by the former USSR is similar to England's loss of prominent football players to Italy, Spain and Germany, with the difference that the Russians are not available for the Olympics as are English footballers for the World Cup. There are no important NHL players on the US team here.

The United Team in the Albertville Winter Games is missing several exceptional men: the formidable "KLM" front-line formation, as they were known, that departed after the Calgary Games. Krutov and Larionov for Vancouver; Makarov for Calgary; Kasatonov and Fetisov were stolen by New Jersey Devils.

These Olympics are the former Iron Curtain's last stand. Instead of the Russians being considered almost automatic winners, Lake Placid in 1980 apart, they are now on equal terms within a small first division including Sweden, Canada, Czechoslovakia and Finland. "For the first time, we don't know what's going to happen," Tristan Alric, a specialist colleague from the French daily, L'Equipe, said.

The Russians are frantically trying to resist the drain to the West with the establishment of their own professional league. Igor Dmitriyev, the assistant national coach, who is expected to succeed the veteran figure from the Brezhnev era, Viktor Tikhonov, said yesterday: "We will not be able to resist until we have a stable economic situation in Russia and our players are content with the way of life. We are paying the players enough,

but so far it's only in roubles. A continuing loss will cause us many problems, even the closure of clubs. The NHL should help us stabilise the situation."

The nosedive of the rouble means that there is still no effective security, though Vladimir Tretyak, the former goaltender who resisted the dollar after the Sarajevo Games to become a Soviet coach, said optimistically: "We hope our professional system will be effective by next year." It needs to be if the Russian Republic, which supplies most of the Olympic team, is not to become a farm for America.

It required resolution yesterday morning to set off from Courchevel for the neighbouring valley of Méribel. Almost two feet of snow had fallen overnight, the mountain roads reduced

cars to walking pace and the lift system, by which you can ascend Mont Saurire and descend the other side, was at breakfast time still shrouded in fog and not yet operating. The road journey, initially perilous, became an experience of rare beauty as the fog lifted and revealed Savoie glittering in the sun.

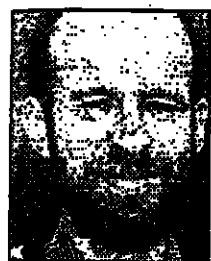
The man on whom all attention is focused in the present United Team is Alexei Kovalev, from Moscow Dinamo, not yet 19, but his signature already obtained by NY Rangers. He visited a Rangers training camp in September and is said not to have stopped smiling since at the prospect of his new life.

The synchronisation of the Russians yesterday, whipping Norway 8-1, was as always a joy. They play ice hockey the way the Hungar-

ians of Gustav Sebes 40 years ago played football. The passing and anticipation is breathtaking; you sense that, if another five yards was added to the perimeter's radius, no team would ever take the puck from them.

The tournament has been re-shaped this time; no longer is it determined entirely by league and points system, the winner often known days in advance, but now on a knockout basis from the quarter-final. On yesterday's evidence, the Russians are still going to give us some drama. Had it not been for Marthinsson, the Norwegian goaltender, the Russians might have run well into double figures.

Winter Olympics, page 27



PARENTS
The joys
and trials
of work
experience



LIFE & TIMES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11 1992



LAW
Why are
lawyers taking
to the streets
tomorrow?

Putting the fizz into socialism

**Why should the Left stick to stale old
cakes and ale politics? Alan Ryan
says no one should choke on the idea
of a lavish Labour fund-raising banquet**

Political bandwagons may be driven by passion, but they are fuelled by cash — a truth better known to American politicians than to anyone else. The fund-raising dinner at \$50, \$500 or \$5,000 a plate is a standard item in the US fund-raiser's armoury.

Gastronomic events are not "rubber chicken" is the polite description of the usual fare, but then the object is not to put calories into the voters but bucks into the candidates' pockets. It seems a bit unfair that as soon as the Labour party joins the modern world, emulates the American Democratic party and raises some cash by a dinner for its better-off literary friends, it is mocked, and its socialist credentials impugned.

Once again Neil Kinnock's new model Labour party is being taken to task for holding a £500-a-head dinner at which guests (see panel, right) will eat from a menu devised by, among others, the chef of the fashionable London restaurant 190 Queensgate, and drink "free" champagne from an anonymous donor. The event, at the Park Lane Hotel in Mayfair on Thursday, will raise at least £150,000 for party funds.

Why do the English think socialism cannot eat at the Park Lane Hotel without losing its credibility? Nobody in America says Paul Newman isn't a real Democrat, even though he doesn't just go to Democratic party dinners but runs a gourmet food business.

Cries of "champagne socialism" miss an important point. They confuse socialism — or egalitarianism — complaints about how the good things of life are distributed with a puritan complaint against the pleasures of the flesh. But puritanism and socialism are entirely distinct: one of George Orwell's most famous invectives was his attack on the bearded, sandal-wearing vegetarians who made socialism appear so deeply unattractive to anyone of reasonable health and vigour.

Enthusiasm for good food and drink is in fact one of the oldest strands in English socialism. When our impoverished forebears dreamt of the earthly paradise it was flowing with cakes and ale. The chief feature of "the land of Cockayne" was gastronomic delight. Being a very English Utopia it did not aspire to champagne, but it certainly aspired to abundance rather than austerity.

You might dismiss all that as a reflection of the life of peasants who spent their actual lives scraping a precarious living from the soil, and constantly facing the threat of famine. But Friedrich Engels was no peasant — he was a partner in a Lancashire cotton firm, and rarely missed a meal

even during the revolution of 1848. His idea of heaven, as he wrote in Eleanor Marx's autobiography book, was "Chateau Margaux, 1848".

William Morris's *News from Nowhere* continues in the same vein. When Morris and his friend walk up the Thames discussing the amazing changes that socialism has wrought in Britain, Morris points to the barges bringing barrels of good claret from Bordeaux. With socialism has come peace and prosperity, symbolised by the fact that the ordinary Englishman no longer has to drink only beer.

Sober, reformist Labour party socialism has on the whole concentrated on bread-and-butter issues, discussing prescription charges and housing benefit more happily than large, Utopian speculations about what socialism might do for human nature. But that is a matter of political history, and has rather little to do with socialism.

Because the one successful Labour government this country has seen was the Attlee government that had to rebuild Britain after the second world war, the association of socialism and austerity has become pretty well unshakable. Given that the British electorate seems inclined to vote Labour only when the economy is in deep trouble, a reputation for sobriety may be an electoral advantage. It is probably late in the day to recall that the most successful subsequent Chancellor of the Exchequer was Roy Jenkins.

Claret socialists, if not champagne socialists, have a pretty good record. All the same it would be a pity to forget that the early 19th-century French socialist Charles Fourier thought that the task of socialism was "the rehabilitation of the flesh" and a pity if any of us forget that the point of social reform is not to make anyone rich, but to make everyone happy.

The discomfort people feel at the thought of Labour supporters financing the party by dining at the Park Lane Hotel is not only a rumour about the unpuritanical side of left-wing ideals. It has, if anything, even more to do with the thought that people who are wholehearted members of any sort of elite today will find it hard to put up with most sorts of equality tomorrow, and perhaps even more with the thought that if your life and tastes are too different from the taste of the people whose welfare you are concerned with, you won't understand them well enough really to help them.

This is an old fear, and one that did a lot to shape the ethos of the old Labour party. In the 1880s and 1890s the Settlement Movement took large numbers of Oxford and Cambridge undergraduates to the East End, where they lived in places like Toynbee Hall, doing social work in the community and teaching adult education classes.

The idea that inspired the founders of the movement was to infuse social solidarity in the upper middle-class students as much as to help the East End working class. It achieved the latter as well,

but perhaps its greatest contribution to social reform was producing Clement Attlee and Lord Beveridge, both of whom spent a good deal of time at Toynbee Hall.

Nobody thought solidarity meant that upper middle-class students should (or even could) go native and pretend that they were themselves members of the proletariat. But what made it easier to combine an ethos of fraternity with the reality of vast differences of income, education and taste was something we have lost.

Even though the East End was a pretty pagan place, and the Christianity that moved many of the settlement workers was a diluted sort of faith, it was still possible to talk about our equality in the eyes of God without undue embarrassment. The great social investigator Charles Booth was a disciple of the French philosopher Auguste Comte, but what he belonged to

was a positivist church, not a party cell or branch.

A world that has lost that kind of allegiance has lost one of the things that allows a certain sort of moral or psychological equality to survive alongside economic and social inequalities. What kept Beveridge (who never did become a socialist in fact), Richard Tawney, Attlee and innumerable others hard at work was the thought that from those to whom much has been given, much will be required — including an intellectual and political lead.

Neither history nor anything else actually suggests that a taste for decent food and drink has been a great handicap to running a reforming government. The assorted Marxist tyrannies that have lately collapsed all over eastern Europe were certainly corrupted by greed, but it was the greed of frustrated characters on the make,

who might elsewhere have turned into respectable entrepreneurs — or simple crooks — that did the damage. Nowhere has it been the gutlessness or lack of deep principle of so-called champagne socialists.

The idea that reformers ought to demonstrate the purity of their convictions by leading bleak, uncultivated lives is a strangely Anglo-Saxon idea. It permeates American politics; it made Barry Humphries's Les Patterson a plausible image of the Australian Labor party's attitude to cultural affairs, and it still makes inverted snobbery one of the British Labour party's most striking social characteristics.

The idea that a principled contempt for the pleasures of bourgeois life is indispensable to left-wing politics is obsolete. It is a curious view that suggests that the only way to demonstrate a sincere belief that people ought to be rescued from miserable surroundings, dreary jobs or no job at all, cramped and ignorant lives, ill-health and financial insecurity is to go and suffer all these things yourself.

I find myself more persuaded by the opposite thought. I would rather be escorted to the future by someone whose enjoyment of the present suggests that the Promised Land will be lively, interesting and fun to live in, as well as more just than the here and now.

Alan Ryan is a Mellon Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey.

PARTY HOSTS

Jack Cunningham (campaign co-ordinator)
Larry Whitty (general secretary)
Ken Follett (underwriter/thriller writer)
Julia Hobbsbawn (fundraising consultant)
Other Gala committee members:
Barry Delaney
Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC
Clive Jenkins
Lord Macaulay of Bragar, QC
David Puttnam
Doris Saatchi

PARTY PEOPLE

Likely candidates for the Labour party's party list:
Melvyn Bragg (*South Bank Show*)
John Mortimer (writer)
Glenda Jackson (actress)
Harold Pinter (playwright)
Antonia Fraser (writer)
Jill Morrell (campaigner)
Lenny Henry (comedian)
Owen Oyston (property magnate)
Lord Williams of Elvel (merchant banker)
Nazam Virani (owner, Bellhaven brewery)
Paul Swain (chairman of Caparo industries)
Jonathan Miller (playwright)
Margaret Drabble (novelist)
Michael Holroyd (literary biographer)
Stephen Fry (comedian)
Robbie Coltrane (actor)
Ben Elton (comedian)
John Norton (assistant director, merchant bank)
Ruth Rendell (writer)
Shirley Anne Field (actress)
Ray Weldon (writer)
Sir Richard Attenborough (film director)
Tom Conti (actor)
Susan Hampshire (actress)

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Parents	5
Homes	6
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Burdens on my shoulder

MID LIFE

Neil Lyndon
reveals the
indulgences that
scarred him
for life



Just back from the physiotherapist: high spot of the week, my nearest approach to divine rapture. I now look forward to my three-quarters of an hour on the couch twiddling the control knob on the magic-ray machine with the kind of anticipation I used to feel for a Friday night in the pub with the boys. Pathetic.

Last night, the pain in my shoulder was so constant and torturing that I might have considered exercising my neck on the end of a rope if I hadn't known that I would find relief this morning at the physiotherapist's hands. She, a lady as imposing and formidable in brain-power as in her 13-stone frame, laid me on a couch, hooked her hands under my chin and pulled out of my neck what felt like three inches of compacted spine and sprained muscle.

Sighs of bliss emerged unbidden from my lips as she released me from the Iron Maiden which was garroting me and the pain waned and flowed away. "It's a miracle," I breathed. "No, it's not," she said, slapping me down with her usual briskness. "If you look at most of the miracles in the Bible you can see that the miracle is not in the laying on of hands but in the knowing what to do."

I asked if I might have achieved the same effect by topping myself. She answered that my family might have

seen that solution as being less than a miracle. No nonsense or flight of self-pitying fancy is worn by this angel of mercy. "It's your own fault for doing such silly things," she said. "I was hoping to get rid of you today but now I think I'm going to be stuck with you for some more weeks."

As with most things wrong with me today, the story of this shoulder takes its origin in the excesses and youthful vanities of past decades. I tore it first on a winter evening in 1977 at the indoor cricket school at Lord's, trying to bowl like Malcolm Marshall

after a warming-up session in the Botham manner, lifting a few pints of heavy. The pain was paralyzing. I had to go and lie on a bench for about 20 minutes. The flannelled fools who were my companions merely laughed and told me to lay off the Olivier act.

(No brutal callousness exceeds the cricket's indifference to suffering. I once broke a finger trying and failing to hold on to a savagely hit cover-drive. My moans mingled for the rest of the match with the whines and grumbles of my team-mates that I had dropped the catch. That

finger is still contorted. When I exhibit its withered crookedness as a reproach to those with whom I was playing that day, they still say, 18 years later, "Yes, yes, but what matters is that you dropped the catch."

No sooner had the shoulder recovered than I ripped it again, doing press-ups with my hands on the floor and my feet on the third step of the stairs (I had caught sight of this exercise in *Marathon Man*, performed by Dustin Hoffman's CIA brother, and, impressionable nitwit that I was, had thought: "That looks horrible, must try it"). In the last decade, I have put it out in any number of less glamorous endeavours: lugging infants or boxes of groceries, clipping hedges or lifting the manhole cover on the cesspit. A couple of weeks ago, I gave myself the severest bout of shoulder gyp in recent years by slipping on a step when I was carrying an armful of logs. What progress from shining prince of Lord's to crippled domestic menial in less than 20 years.

The exercises I attempt today are only those prescribed by the osteopath (for the back: another story) and the physiotherapist. After our last session, when I was preparing to go off travelling for ten days, she told me to take a 2lb weight with me and swing it gently in my hand, like a pendulum, to stretch out the twisted shoulder. I put

the weight in my shoulder-bag and toted the bag — where else? — on my shoulder. She and I examined the consequences of that imbecility in our session this morning.

The only amusement afforded by this shoulder was enjoyed by the security staff at Heathrow when I was checking in for a flight last week. The woman who examined

my shoulder-bag paid it, I felt, undue attention, frowning through its compartments over and over until she fished out the 2lb weight and held it up with an expression of quizzical disbelief. "I can explain everything," I babbled. "I doubt it," she said. She turned away and shouted to her colleague monitoring the x-ray screen: "You'll never believe it. Marge: it's a 2lb weight."

The physiotherapist has

told me to leave the weight at home when I go away again this afternoon. I am to take a hand-towel, roll it up and place it behind my neck in bed or in a chair. I shall probably get that wrong, too, and strangle myself. Barring miracles, it will be a blessed relief.

TOMORROW
Single Life: by Lynne Truss

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GALLERIES

Alan Davie, one of Scotland's most admired painters, is saluted in his native land. Andrew Gibbon Williams reports

Immersed in half a century of artistic output while preparing for the largest retrospective of his work, a single question perplexes Alan Davie: How did I manage to produce all this? Davie is now 71 years old and has always been prolific. But it is not the scale of his achievement which baffles; it is the astonishing variety of his own creativity. Where did all this come from?

Scotland is staging what amounts to a festival in honour of the figure widely regarded as her greatest living artist. The principal show at the McLellan Galleries in Glasgow, consisting in the main of large-scale oils, is supplemented by another in that city and two in Edinburgh, which explore Davie's activities as draughtsman, printmaker and designer of tapestries. Davie, the musician — he is an accomplished jazz saxophonist — is being celebrated by a series of concerts culminating in a performance by the artist himself. An opulent new monograph consolidates the package.

Yet in spite of his soft Scottish brogue, still resonant after an adult life away from his homeland, for Davie Scotland is, artistically speaking, an inappropriate host. Protest as he might that his work is in the authentic Scottish tradition (Davie cites prehistoric standing stones, Pictish carving and Celtic manuscript illumination), it has nothing remotely in common with the francophile work of the Scottish Colourists and less with the mud-and-cabbage-patch preoccupations of their Glasgow Boy predecessors. Arriving as he does in an art community still dancing on the bandwagon of Glaswegian new figuration, Davie appears as alien as a missionary saint.

Nor did Scotland play any very positive role in fostering his talents. A pre-war stint at Edinburgh College of Art, even then regarded as stuffily traditional, is not a fond memory. "They tried to convince me that art was something difficult, that it was something I had to learn. Absolute rubbish," says Davie. Confronted by his first life model, which also happened to be the teenage Davie's

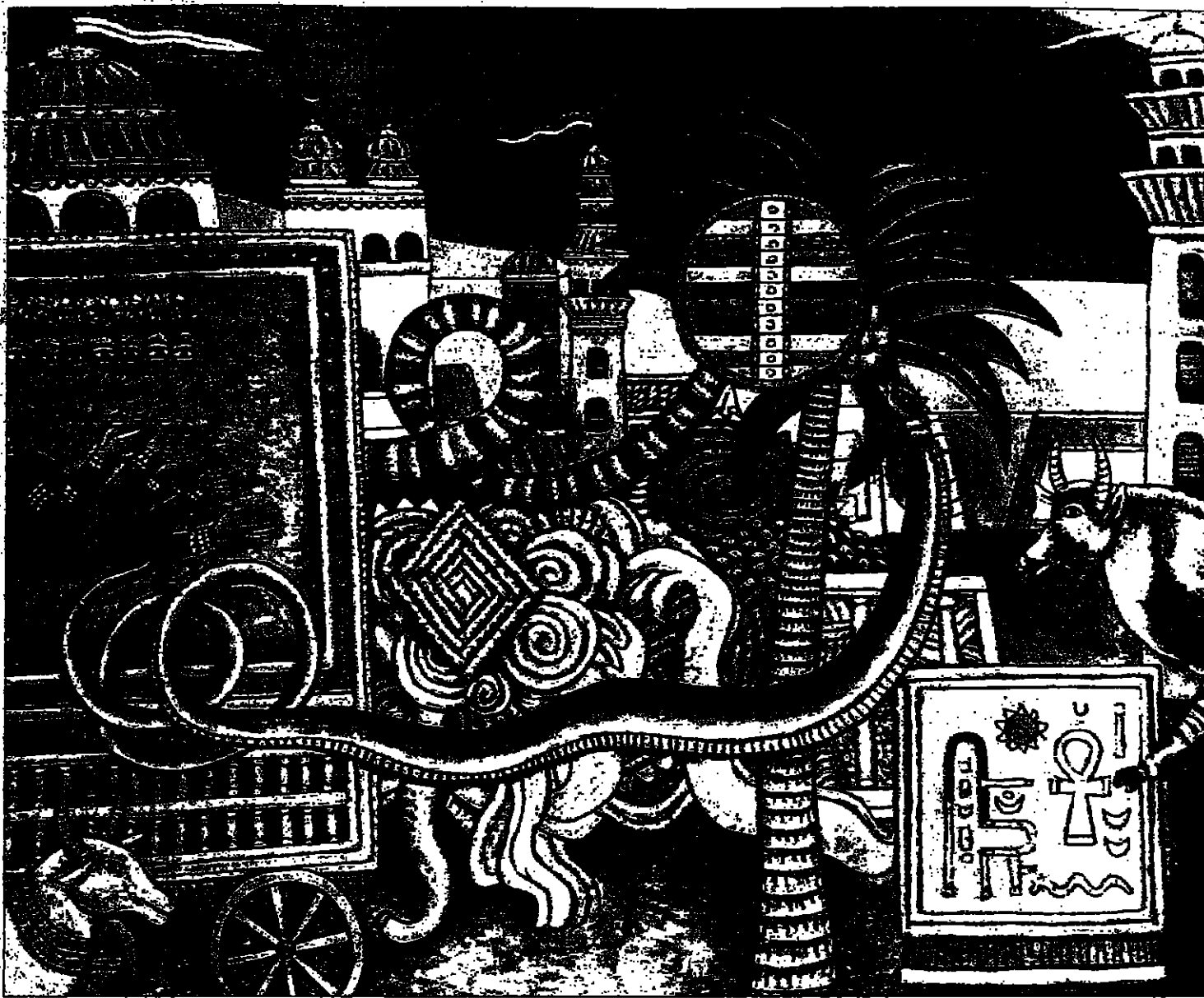
first experience of the naked female form, he rendered what he called his "psychedelic revelation" in brilliant colours and was soundly admonished for his efforts. Success was found in the jewellery and ceramic departments.

Like so many of his generation, Davie's progress was impeded by war service, but he was already convinced that his intuitive approach was correct. However, it was only in 1948 when, taking advantage of a travelling scholarship held over from before the war, that he experienced at first-hand other artists operating in what he describes romantically as the "mysterious realm".

The first post-war Venice Biennale was full of kindred spirits — Chagall, Picasso, Miró and Klee in particular — whose dictum about "taking a line for a walk" corroborated his own natural inclination. In Venice he met Peggy Guggenheim. "Who is this guy? He must be an American," exclaimed the chairwoman of the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni. Davie's *Music of the Autumn Landscape* was promptly purchased and the glittering international prizes lay at his feet.

Chez Guggenheim, Davie came across Mrs Ernst's protégé, Jackson Pollock, and, however much Davie downplays the influence of all other artists it is impossible to ignore the fiery explosion of Davie's conceiving abstract expressionist — the Davie whose dense, swirling visions every major collection from New York to Sydney was soon to feel compelled to acquire — without the kindling of Pollock.

At the McLellan Galleries, Davie's work of the Fifties still packs an impressive punch. The largest and most complex canvas, *The Creation of Man*, a glimpse into the primeval soup if ever there was one, presents a frenetic battle of interlocking abstract shapes. Anthropomorphic elements abound and the picture exudes a pulsating sexual energy. This is not, however, the action painting which Pollock eventually espoused and by which Davie was disappointed when he visited the artist



Davie's *Mystical Vision with Cow & Goat*, 1985-1986: "Archetypal images recognisable to the human race as a whole"

in 1956, but an insidiously organised improvisation.

Those who are acquainted with Davie and assume this classic abstract period to be the quintessence of his art are in for a surprise. For the marks, shapes and patterns — arrows, crosses, stripes and checkerboards — which were little more than nascent in the Fifties, were subsequently liberated from the often turgid impasto to form a free-floating symbolic language.

Davie has no qualms about borrowing from ancient cultures. Egyptian hieroglyphs, the eerie petroglyphs of South America, the bold designs of native American culture and — most recently — the rich, enigmatic decorations of the Jain sect are unhesitatingly pillaged. Defending his vagueness about their precise meanings Davie refers to Jung: "These are

archetypal images recognisable to the human race as a whole." All his work of the past 20 years is characterised by the bravura orchestration of these symbols.

Accounting for the popularity of Davie's work in the Sixties is not difficult: the sonorous colours, animated textures and brash happy-go-lucky attitude chimed in with the spirit of Chelsea's King's Road. Compared with the pictures produced since, however, it looks decidedly trite.

The most significant pictures in Glasgow date from the mid Eighties. *Meditation on Jain Cosmology*, more or less straightforward transcription though it is, shows half the year this white-bearded artist lives on the Caribbean island of St Lucia where he practises underwater swimming. Across the

source material. *Homage to Homo Australis Number 10* is an anti-diluvian metaphor for the sex act. Davie is fond of quoting Eugen Herrigel's book *Zen in the Art of Archery*, about the archer needing to train himself spiritually to bypass consciousness, in order to hit the target. He does himself miss, but not often. At his best he succeeds in "evoking the inexpressible", which he maintains is the religious purpose of all art, more profoundly than any other post-war British artist.

"Painting for me is just one activity among many which brings me into contact with the incredible forces of nature — it gives me a mystical experience," he says. For half the year this white-bearded artist lives on the Caribbean island of St Lucia where he practises underwater swimming. Across the

bay from his house two extraordinary phallic peaks, the plugs of extinct volcanoes, soar three thousand feet from the sea. Nature has created the perfect priapic vista for Alan Davie.

● Solo: Alan Davie retrospective, at the McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (041-357 3929), until March 22.

● Alan Davie, at the Compass Gallery, West Regent Street, Glasgow (041-221 6370), until February 22.

● Alan Davie, at the Talbot Rice Art Centre, University of Edinburgh (031-650 1000), until February 29.

● Alan Davie, at the Edinburgh Printmakers Workshop, Union Street, Edinburgh (031-557 2479), until February 29.

● Alan Davie, with essays by Douglas Hall and Michael Tucker, is published by Lund Humphries at £35.

ARTS BRIEF

Out of the East

THE Japan Festival may have closed but its aims will continue, thanks to a £500,000 donation from the Japan Festival Committee in Japan. The money, given to the UK Committee, will be used to commemorate the festival and promote its aims by enhancing understanding of Japanese culture among young people in Britain. Both committees are now considering how to use the funds, including, if possible, the continuation of the Japan Festival Education Programme. The Japan Society, whose centenary has been marked by the festival, will be associated with the arrangements to be made for following it up.

Bill's back

IN 1989, after an unhappy Hollywood experience with Burt Reynolds on *Breaking In*, Bill Forsyth mourned: "I used to love film." But now the Glasgow-born director of *Gregory's Girl* is bouncing back. His ambitious new project, *Being Human*, is being mounted by David Putnam's Enigma Productions; shooting should begin in July. Six episodes stretch in time and place from the prehistoric world to contemporary Manhattan; Robin Williams is scheduled to appear in all of them.

Last chance...

THE British Museum is thought of in many ways, but as a repository of contemporary art and craft is seldom one of them. However, as the national collection of prints and drawings, it naturally keeps up to date and modern works are a vital complement to many other departments. Twentieth-century acquisitions are the subject of an elaborate recent catalogue, and of an amazingly rich and varied exhibition, *Collecting the 20th Century*, which closes on Sunday (071-636 1555).

TOMORROW IN LIFE & TIMES

Daddy's girl:
Natasha Richardson interviewed

DANCE

To London, via Frankfurt

US choreographer William Forsythe, whose work receives a belated British premiere this week, talks to John Percival

Among choreographers working today, the American William Forsythe is reckoned to be one of the most formidable. But he says he became a choreographer at the age of 13 or 14 "just because I had to".

His school in New York annually joined with a professional children's choir to stage old Broadway musicals, and he was the only person prepared to arrange the dance numbers. He remembers taking a dance from a chewing gum television commercial "a sort of accelerated it and fooled around. I had this girlfriend who was the daughter of a big Broadway star; she was my dancing partner because she had actually taken some lessons, and the two of us patched it together."

"The other one I did was a cha-cha number which was completely improvised and was apparently enough to make people stand up and yell. That's where it actually began."

Forsythe has come a long way since then. At 42, he has long been one of Europe's most sought-after choreographers, so busy that Covent Garden had to wait two years for his ballet *In the Middle*, somewhat elevated. It was announced early in 1990, but will finally receive its British premiere on Thursday.

Forsythe did not take his first ballet classes until he was 19, at university in Florida. Soon he found himself back

in New York, studying at the Joffrey School and performing with Robert Joffrey's second company. In his spare time, he tried out ballets with his wife, working in their living room. He drove friends and colleagues to distraction, getting them to try out his ideas and talking endlessly about his intentions until an older dancer, "someone I admired very much," said "Shut up, you're not going to be a choreographer until you dance first." I respected his opinion, and for three or four years I didn't dare talk about choreography. I just concentrated entirely on dance with a similar intensity.

That concentration took him to Germany to join the Stuttgart Ballet in 1973; three years later he took part in one of their workshop matinees for new choreographers. He mounted a duet, *Ulich*, to Mahler music; he says he "just pulled it together" from the notes he still had of one of the pieces he had done before leaving America. On the strength of it he got commissions for new works from the Basle Ballet as well as Stuttgart, where Marcia Haydée appointed him one of three young house choreographers.

Over the next few years Forsythe averaged three premieres a year, an amazing record for a newcomer, especially as the invitations came from leading companies all over Europe and the Joffrey Ballet in America.



William Forsythe: "I'm the most curious person"

But it was Frankfurt that snapped him up as director, in 1984, after he had created *Guene* there. That was his second evening-long work. His earlier long ballet, *Orpheus*, was made in 1979 to a score written for the Stuttgart Ballet by Hans Werner Henze, with a libretto by Edward Bond. It was a great success, but Forsythe has no thought of reviving it.

He explains: "I don't think I'll ever turn back to something so explicitly narrative. I was working for a theatre that had commissioned me to work with those people and they were insisting on a coherent narrative. I was in a position to oblige, but it was very difficult for me: my nature is not to work that way, but to a higher degree of abstraction."

"I think our work in Frankfurt is quite narrative but not that kind of story-telling. There are themes that are

developed and it all resolves into something or other, and makes sense with a kind of illogical logic to it. I don't know when I start what the logic is going to be; I'm so curious about it myself. I'm the most curious person."

This happened to *In the Middle*, somewhat elevated, but the work which comes to the Royal Ballet is as created at the Paris Opera in 1987: a demanding set of dances intensively developed from an initial theme, performed on a bare stage.

● Forsythe's *In the Middle*, somewhat elevated is part of a triple bill opening at the Royal Opera House (071-240 1066) on Thursday, 7.30pm.

RADIO REVIEW

Listen, the ears have no walls

There is no older and more venerable cliché among radiofans than the one about radio drama having the edge on television because the pictures are better. This is usually meant to imply that listeners have more imagination than viewers. What it really means is that radio can go to far more exotic places and employ casts of thousands for the price of a special-effects record and a man in the corner with two coconut shells and a tray full of gravel.

Comparing like with like, radio can still seem like the biggest spender in broadcasting. Consider the case of *Maigret* and the mystery of *Scarlet on Black*. On Sunday evening, ITV's reincarnation of Simenon's detective had Michael Gambon in a story that seemed to take place at two tables, two offices and the corner of one room.

In *Scarlet on Black* (Radio 4, Saturday) meanwhile, David Calder was playing a not-dissimilar Paris *flic*, on the trail of kidnappers and plotting politicians. As the story lurched from Algeria in the 1960s to Paris in the 1990s, the costume budget alone would have bought a television company three episodes of *EastEnders*. Add the

blowing-up of a vanload of terrorists, two machine-gun massacres, a neo-Fascist rally and a chase through the Métro, and in television terms you have the kind of drama that needs co-production funds from Hollywood. In the light of such excess, it quickly became irrelevant that everybody in *Scarlet on Black* appeared to have the same name and voice, and that the plot was so impenetrable. Calder had to come on at the end and talk us through it.

Scarlet on Black may not have been perfect drama, but it was perfect radio — or rather perfect wireless, because for anyone of an uncertain age it brought back all those "put the gun down and don't be a fool" plays that wiled away the Saturday afternoons and Sunday evenings of childhood. If only it had been raining outside, my contentment would have been complete.

Certainly it had more going for it than last week's Monday Play on Radio 4, *Add Life to Years*. This was an honest attempt to address the debate surrounding efforts to inject free-market enterprise into the National Health Service, and it dealt with a community health education

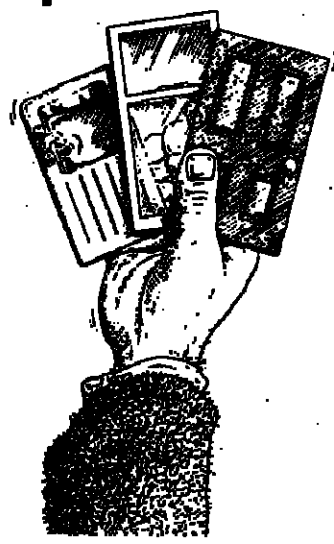
team surrendered to the tender mercies of a marketing director charged with selling health care, rather than promoting it. The logic of both arguments was clearly stated, but you knew the thing was going off the rails as soon as the cast started speaking in italics. As medieval theatre had passion plays, modern radio has *Issue Drama*, its messages delivered in much the same ritualised manner, and its lessons picked out with fluorescent highlighters.

And what lessons were to be learnt from *What If...?* on Sunday of last week, in which Christopher Andrew wondered how the world would look now if Christopher Columbus had not turned right at Lisbon and crashed into America? Apparently, the land from the Atlantic to the Ural mountains would have a population of no more than 60 million, because without American potatoes, wheat strains and drugs, the rest of us would have died out from famine, failed crops and disease.

Over in undiscovered America, meanwhile, tribes of happy agrarian Indians would still believe they were living on the back of a turtle, be growing corn in Manhattan and generally being awfully nice to each other — it being the evil white man who brought such corrupting things as war, skyscrapers, and hamburgers with him.

PATRICK STODDART

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Two growth industries are emerging from a troubled society. Sarah Jane Checkland reports on police and bankruptcy auctions

Hot items in a cold climate

Bidding is in progress and a forest of numbered cards waves in the air. A medieval icon of the Annunciation sells for a mere £36, while a plump buddha fetches £30, and a violin and bow £45. Buyers are whey-faced men in shell-suits and anoraks.

This is not the nightmare of London's gentlemen auctioneers come true, the art market rising from its recent rigor mortis and being taken over by *hoi polloi*, but the dowdy halls of Messrs Dowell Lloyd & Co Ltd of Putney. They are efficiently disposing of hundreds of stolen items never claimed by their owners.

There goes a girl's bicycle for £3, a car radio for £46. Someone pays £10 for a Metro Stoplock Steering Immobiliser, the gadget meant to stop theft in the first place.

This miscellany has been sent for sale by the Metropolitan Police, under the terms of the Police Disposal of Property Regulations of 1975. Here, "subject to certain conditions, property which has come into the possession of the police in connection with a crime will be sold if the owner is unknown".

"Sotheby's and Christie's must weep when they see how many people we get here," says the auctioneer, Alan Davies, the only person present in a suit. "We always have Rolls-Royces parked outside on the viewing day. People can't resist a bargain."

Gesturing at the crowd, Mr Davies expands modestly on "the craft of auctioneering". Whereas the smoothies of Bond Street have things easy by being given a reserve price (minimum price he is prepared to take) by the vendor, Mr Davies believes that the sheer force of his personality has made these sales a success. Variety act quips can help oil the wheels. Mr Davies's favourite being when a potential customer trips over a carpet. "We are not licensed for dancing, madam," he usually says.

Much of the fare, it must be said, is distinctly unlovely, such as this week's sorry collection of wedding dresses, and a mangle in the corner. Last year Mr Davies somehow managed to sell a consignment of thousands of condoms, a car which arrived in pieces, and (in one of his separate Customs and Excise sales) a set of roulette wheels. "Everything has its price," he pronounces.

According to Mr Davies, once a bargain hunter has found Dowell

Lloyd, he or she always comes back. One convert returned when the bicycle he bought was stolen, again, but most of those who attend "furnish their homes" courtesy of the Metropolitan Police.

Punters are not deterred by the eventualities that some of the mountain of hi-fis might literally have fallen off the back of a lorry during the course of its travels. "They buy not knowing whether they work," Mr Davies says.

Fine art and antiques are often recycled this way. Although the icon on offer was in fact a fake, its photographic image having been glued down on a worn-eaten panel, and the buddha was made of concrete. Mr Davies says antiques often do come his way. Last year he sold a gold and diamond necklace for £20,000. His last sale included silver by Tiffany and antique clocks. On the whole however, the quality items are directed to, and sold at, the fine art auction houses.

Auctions of these goods, whether at the fine art houses or by companies such as Mr Davies, take place when the police have proved, often in court, that they are unable to identify the owners. Proceeds (apart from the auctioneer's 10 per cent cut) go to charity. Once an object has been sold this way, the original owner loses all rights.

Inevitably there have been occasions when the original owner spots his or her erstwhile possession coming up for auction. Eighteen months ago, for example, a set of valuable 19th-century Indian company school drawings of fish was brought in for a valuation at Sotheby's. It turned out they had been in an album sold by the auction house in 1982 to a dealer, part of which was then stolen from the dealer in 1984. The dealer was unable to claim his property back, however, because in the interim the drawings had been sold on behalf of the police through the dealers/auctioneers Spink.

Sometimes convicted criminals may benefit from unclaimed goods. If the police cannot prove that goods in the possession of a particular defendant are stolen, and if no one else claims them, the logical owner is the criminal.

This is what happened after Operation Winnow, launched by Guildford police in 1988 to counter a spate of 50 burglaries in the Home Counties. Many of the victims were elderly and in bed



Wheeling and dealing: regular bidders at a Dowell Lloyd auction of unclaimed stolen goods; all proceeds (minus the auctioneer's 10 per cent fee) will go to charity

during the burglaries, and were tied up or handcuffed while their homes were turned over. According to detectives on the case, each burglary was meticulously planned. After the recovery operation, *Trace* magazine, which circulates images of stolen art to the trade, ran four pages on the "Guildford Antiques Haul" of no less than 2,000 items, and the antiques were put on show for the public to come and claim.

"The haul was mainly the residue, such as china, prints, jewellery, the good stuff having already been resold [by the thieves]," Detective Constable Barry Jutsum says. But because the police could not find owners for a large number of items, including a reclining bronze nude, a musical box and a gold and diamond brooch in the form of a dolphin, they were given to one of the thieves, who has now completed his prison sentence. "He was given back over £1 million worth of goods," says Philip Saunders, the managing director of *Trace* Publications.

North Yorkshire police think the same thing may happen to the

500 items seized at the end of their recent Operation Lovejoy, although the matter is still to come to trial.

On another occasion in 1990, a man convicted twice for burglaries attempted to claim the residue of antiques found by police under the floorboards of his parents' house, also in Yorkshire. Magistrates turned down his claim and the objects were sold through Phillips.

That so many antiques should remain unclaimed may seem bizarre. Apart from having far more sentimental appeal than the average video, they are unique. One factor is the lack of co-ordinated information between the 51 police forces in the UK (owners may not know when goods have been found; another is often the insurers' desire to cut their losses after a reasonable search period).

Losers can use the privately-funded Art Loss Register to circulate information on stolen goods, and *Trace* magazine, but these can be of limited use when canny thieves either transport their loot smartly out of the country or hoard them until the trail goes cold.

Bailiffs' bargains

The biggest sale in Bond Street this month is not quite a bankruptcy sale, but that description is close. The furniture and gadgetry from the late Robert Maxwell's flat is being "sold on behalf of creditors" and, like police auctions, will be offered with no reserves next Friday.

Sotheby's is giving it the full marketing treatment in the hope that any remaining traces of the late media tycoon's charisma will rub off on the prices. This principle worked for Phillips auctioneers last year, when it sold a mountain of cushions from the office of the beleaguered businessman, Asil Nadir. Why should it not work on the microwave, meat slicer, large double bed and waterproof television used by Captain Bob?

This is the glamorous face of failure, in these days of debts and forced sales. Far more frequent, however, are the squalid dispersals going on all over the

country following a visit from the bailiff.

According to the Policy Studies Institute, in 1981 1.3 million households had problems repaying debts. By 1989 the figure was 2.4 million and rising.

Once again an entrepreneur is eager to seize on the situation. Peter Parfait is the author of the *Government Auction Handbook* (not a government publication) currently being advertised widely in the national press. "Please rush me... copies at £12.95 each" reads the order form. Applicants are sent a blue pamphlet containing the story of how Mr Parfait discovered the wonderful world of bankruptcy sales by purchasing £37,000 worth of equipment from his own bankrupt employers for a mere £3,150.

"Where there's a negative there must also be a positive and this book is about taking advantage of that positive," he writes. The main use of the booklet, however, is its list of auction houses that

specialise in selling off bankrupt stock.

These auctions have been vexing the National Consumer Council (NCC), which is calling for stricter controls over "the growing army of private bailiffs". "Almost anyone can set up in business as a private bailiff," Lady Wilcock, the NCC chairman, says. She deplores the fact that they are allowed to seize almost any possessions and sell them far short of their real value (bailiffs sell items with no reserves). Sob stories compiled by Citizens' Advice Bureaux include the car valued at £700 which was sold by bailiffs for £20. After bailiffs' expenses, the debtor found only £7.35 credited towards his debt. In another case a woman's engagement ring was taken to cover her debt of £140. It was sold for £14. There are also fears among consumer groups that the poor prices reflect secret and profitable deals between bailiffs, auctioneers and traders.

Time, puffins, please

There may be only 19 islanders, but Lundy's new innkeeper will have 19,000 tourists to serve

At the end of last month, the Landmark Trust advertised for a landlord for the island of Lundy's only pub, the Marisco Tavern. It received more than 250 applications for what is, to put it mildly, an unusual job. Lying 24 miles off the north Devon coast, Lundy has a population of 19. The successful landlord (and partner) will run the kitchen and bar. More importantly, it seems, he or she will be required to brew 70 gallons of beer — "Old Light Bitter" and "Puffin Purge" — a week. By my calculations, this makes the islanders no ordinary regulars.

Despite the large number of applicants, however, only nine couples have been short-listed for interviews, due to take place in Bideford on February 20 and on Lundy the next day.

"We had to weed out all the weirdos," Rebecca Morgan, of the Landmark Trust, says. "There is clearly a large group of the population who want to escape the world and all its troubles. These can be quite odd people. A number of chefs also applied. We have to be very careful about them. They have a tendency to scream and shout a lot."

Lundy, a vast granite slab in the middle of the Bristol Channel, can be reached only by the 300-tonne *MS Odenburg*, which sails, tide permitting (five times in February), from Bideford and occasionally from Ilfracombe. When I visited the island last week, the sun was shining and there were only two other visitors,

an ex-RAF pilot turned artist and a woman from the *North Devon Journal*. It was one of the most beautiful and remote places I have ever visited. What is more, there wasn't a chef in sight.

Lundy is not always so peaceful, however. To be fair to the islanders and their drinking habits, more than 1,000 people a week visit Lundy during the holiday season (19,000 in total last year), wherein lies the biggest misconception about the job.

"Loners are no good," John Puddy, the Lundy agent, says. "We are all here to serve the public. The suitable person will have to be very much involved in the social side of the island, not only being part of a community, but of one that accepts visitors."

Lundy was bought in 1969 by the National Trust, which has leased it ever since to the Landmark Trust. The island was the first area in Britain to be designated a statutory marine reserve, and its famous flora (Lundy cabbage is found nowhere else in the world) and birdlife, particularly puffins (*Lunda* is local for puffin), attract a wide range of visitors. Two years ago the place was invaded by a marauding mob of twitches, who came in search of a rare seabird, the murrelet.

"They were possessed, manic, literally fighting each other to get off the boat first," John Alford, an islander, says. "They didn't care what they were treading on, no respect at all for the environment. They didn't even drink anything."

Not all visitors are so unruly.



Sit. vac.: nine are shortlisted to run the Marisco Tavern, home of Puffin Purge beer

The island, particularly out of season, attracts people wishing to get away from it all. Mr Puddy, who has been the agent for the past nine years, doubles up as a discreet therapist. "We know very little about the people who arrive," he says. "They could be dustmen or solicitors. The island is a great leveler. We don't intrude on people at all, that is one of the attractions."

"Having said that, they want to know exactly what we are up to all the time. But then that's why we are here."

The successful couple will have to be very versatile. There are no plumbers on 24-hour call, all the electricity comes from an aerogenerator and two temperamental diesel generators. There are animals to be farmed, crops to be grown and, on the day I was there, 15 tonnes of catfish seaweed to be spread on the fields.

Lundy is a very safe place. Nothing is locked and there has never been any trouble, except on one infamous occasion five years ago, when a

camper started stealing cameras. He was caught, and Lundy's "crimewave" made national headlines. The only other worry was when B-52s were instructed to jettison their bombs in the Bristol Channel should anything go wrong on their way to the Gulf. In the event, the local MP was more concerned than the islanders.

Three miles long and one mile wide, and generally warmer than the mainland, the island has obvious appeal. In addition to its rich birdlife there are Soay sheep, goats, ponies, seals, and thousands of rabbits, currently all afflicted by myxomatosis (sadly forcing rabbit pie, a tavern speciality, off the menu).

The island can also boast the remains of a 13th-century castle, constructed by Henry III and paid for by the sale of rabbits; a Victorian church built by the Reverend Hudson Groser. Heaven in 1896 (prompting the island to be known, somewhat inevitably, as the Kingdom of Heaven); a

disused lighthouse (The Old Light); a collection of beautifully restored farmhouses and dwellings, including the tavern; and a grand if incongruous Georgian country house.

The tavern is blissfully basic, free from the juke boxes that have ruined Bideford's pubs. The walls are covered with lifebuoys from boats wrecked around Lundy's coast. A wooden balcony overlooks a piano and a large wrought iron chandelier, such is the primacy of the local brew. "Makes you funny," whispered one of them as I was leaving. What's more, there are no licensing hours on Lundy. It could be some job.

JON STOCK

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Getting to know the Euro-boss

WHEN Sigrid Stevenson and her boss, Wally Olins, of the design consultancy Wolff Olins, first travelled to Germany on business, she laid down a few ground rules. "I warned him not to call me by my first name and never put his arm round me." The easy informality of their small London office would, she says, have been misconstrued over there. "They would have thought we were having an affair."

With a German father, a Swedish mother and experience of living in France and Switzerland as well as the UK, Ms Stevenson is well placed to give advice on some of the nuances of office life in other countries.

Julius Heppner, who has invited her to speak at the courses she runs at the Industrial Society on the Secretary and the Single Market, says: "Good secretaries with language skills can move around Europe to work, but it is not quite as easy as you might think."

"There are quite a lot of differences in working practice and culture. That is why we need more education and training."

Secretaries here tend to be undervalued. If you are then suddenly thrust into a job where the expectations of you are higher than you are used to, it can be quite hard to cope."

Wendy Syer, a public relations officer for the European Association of Professional Secretaries, agrees. "On the Continent being a secretary is considered a proper profession, but that is still not the case here. If you have a degree people always think you should want to do something else."

Membership of the association, which has 1,450 members in 15 countries, is restricted to secretaries, chancellors or chief executives. Miss Syer is secretary to Sir

The Times is launching a contest to find the secretary of the year

Christopher Tugendhat, the chairman of Abbey National. "One of our main aims is to get across the idea that this is a profession in its own right. The British secretary is rarely given credit for her brains."

The problem, she says, is not so much salaries, nor with bosses. "At the top level bosses tend to be very supportive."

The British secretary is rarely given credit for her brains

portive. It is lower down in middle management where secretaries are not used properly."

"The main difficulty is that all too often the word conjures up 16-year-old bobby soxers with typewriters. No-one thinks what would happen if every secretary in the country did not turn up to work for 24 hours."

LIZ GILL

Entries are invited for *The Times* European Professional Secretary of the Year Awards 1992, sponsored by *The Times* with the European Association of Professional Secretaries and the Industrial Society.

The awards are designed to find secretaries in the UK with practical language skills, a working knowledge of the

single market and its impact on the UK, and an understanding of the cultural differences — both business and social — between EC countries.

The winner of the award, organised by the London Secretary and Office Management Show, will be presented with a £4,500 two-week holiday for two in Bangkok, courtesy of Holiday Inn Worldwide, with flights by Swissair, and a complimentary place on the Industrial Society secretarial development course of her or his choice, worth up to £500.

Five runners-up will each receive a two-night weekend for two, worth £750, at the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza Geneva, with flights by Swissair.

How to enter: Entries must be presented on the official entry form, obtainable from Blenheim PEL (081-742 2828) quoting *The Times* European Secretary of the Year competition. Callers will be asked to give their name, job title, company name and address, and work telephone number. Alternatively, entry forms can be obtained from Blenheim PEL, Blenheim House, 630 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5BG, giving details as outlined above. Entry forms should be returned by the closing date of Friday, March 6, 1992.

Finalists will be invited to the Holiday Inn, Mayfair, on Wednesday, March 18, for skills testing and an interview with the judging panel. The winner and runners-up will be presented with their awards at noon on the first day of the London Secretary and Office Management Show on Tuesday, March 24, at the Barbican Centre in London.

The competition is not open to employees of Blenheim Exhibitions and Conferences Ltd or employees of *The Times* Newspapers.

Nice experience if you can get it

A father and son reveal the delights and trials of an early foray into the working world

In my day, we had work. These days, there is precious little of that around, so young people had better make the most of the next best thing: work experience. For the youngsters, it is comforting to climb on the nine-to-five treadmill, knowing that they are stepping off after ten working days. For us parents, it is a preparation for the day when we see our child engaged in mortal combat with the job market.

By contrast, I went straight from my final exams to an office run by a man whose way of expressing annoyance was to chuck a filing cabinet out of the window. I had to be at my desk by 9.30 sharp or risk following the trajectory of the filing cabinets.

Under the stress, my hair fell out. I escaped only by having a prolonged bout of glandular fever. If I'd been prepared for what the world of employment had in store, I might still have locks like Michael Heseltine.

Schools are now desperately hunting around for agreeable employers. The bread-and-butter placements — bakery chains spring to mind — are easy; big companies are happy not only to take on pupils, but also to turn up at the school to attract recruits.

Anyone attempting a more off-beat trade or profession finds it much harder to slide a juvenile foot around the door. It is a case of: nice work experience, if you can get it. Peter, our 15-year-old, who is a pupil at Forest Hill school in south-east London, learnt this when he chose graphic design for his work experience.

An art school lecturer, who I thought would certainly know of a few spare placements, told me that he was really pushed to find any opportunities for his own degree course students, let alone anything for a humble GCSE-level lad. One newspaper art department that I tried had no time for escort duties, another lacked even a free chair.

Fortunately, we had a tip from friends who had been through all this the previous year. A model-making studio, Wizzmo Workshop (not its real name), had let their son spend his working fortnight on its premises.

Peter rather liked the sound of mucking around with artistic materials. Several months before he was due to start, I went with him



Worlds apart: Jonathan Sale was desperate to escape work experience in his youth; his son Peter found his design studio a hard-working but happy place

'Under the stress, my hair fell out. I escaped only by having a bout of illness'

on a recess. It turned out that Dave, one of the Wizzmo partners, was a football fan who had just moved into the catchment area of the team that Peter supports. He agreed to have Peter on the payroll or rather, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of the work, the roll.

The fact that Dave was off with flu on Peter's first day and the other partner had forgotten all about the unknown 15-year-old, was itself a valuable learning experience. I know of people who have turned up for promised jobs to discover that the management, and consequently their contract, have been booked out overnight.

Once that was sorted out, Peter was faced with a daunting first task: making a cup of instant coffee. He didn't like to admit that in our house this drink is about as

unlikely as bacon in a rabbit's fridge, on the grounds that it nullifies the homeopathic remedies that we all take. Still, he managed to sneak into a corner and read the instructions.

His last task was to hold out his hand. Although it was not part of the deal, Dave kindly slipped him a tenner at the end of the first week

and £20 at the end of the second week. That meant it counted as not just work experience, but work as well. And his hair didn't fall out.

JONATHAN SALE

Wizzmo, a design and model-making studio situated between Blackfriars and Waterloo in south London, makes things for advertising, including puppets, statues and props.

On my first day I was terrified because although I had been there before for an interview, it had been many months ago, and I was worried that the employers might have forgotten about me.

When I arrived I told the receptionist that I was doing work experience with Dave, my contact.

'The highlight of my day was going to buy lunch for the staff and myself'

A man called Charlie who was Dave's partner said that Dave was ill and that I should have rung to remind him. He also said that he had no work for me and I thought that I was going to be sent home until he suddenly remembered who I was. He then told me to make a cup of coffee, something I had never done before because no

one in our house drinks it. For the rest of that day I worked on an advertisement for *Farmer's Weekly* which involved shaping pieces of clear material in the shape of drops of liquid. These were to be placed around a pig to remind farmers to vaccinate their animals.

My first impressions of my placement were that the other employees were nice, and helpful, but they ignored me. I was too shy to ask them questions about the work I was doing. When I had finished what they had set for me, I would wait for them to notice instead of telling them.

For the remainder of that week I continued working on the drops for the advert and getting the lunch. I made friends with the rest of the staff and Dave eventually

came in, so things improved rapidly. Even so I was getting bored with the same task. What I found out about work that week was that because I left Wizzmo between 5.30pm and 6pm and got home from 6pm to 7pm, I always felt tired. After a meal, I would have an early night and this meant I had very little free time, whereas when I was at school I had lots.

The highlight of my day at work was going to buy lunch for the other members of staff and myself. I would go round taking everyone's orders, then run down to the local sandwich bar. After queuing for ages I would receive rolls, crisps, cakes and drinks (most of which were mine) and have to work out who gave me money.

Other jobs I did included helping make several statues, made out of foam, plaster and polystyrene, sweeping the studio (several times), clearing a disused room and making cups of tea and coffee.

The atmosphere in the studio was happy but everyone was hard working. I had to work hard when I was helping Charlie, as sometimes one mishap could ruin a whole statue, but at other times I could relax a bit.

My best day was just before the end of the two weeks. A video had to be picked up from another studio and instead of sending a courier, Dave asked me to collect it. He showed me on a map exactly where to go and I wrote down the important road names. I set off, and took the tube to Tottenham Court Road, changing on the way. When I walked out of the station and looked for a street sign for about an hour, I realised that I was not going to find it, so I rang my dad to direct me from his A-Z. This may not sound like a good way to spend a morning but it was good to be trusted and to do something useful on my own.

I feel that I gained a lot of knowledge about the world of work. Firstly I found it a lot more demanding than I had expected. I learnt how to design and make several items and how to use different sorts of equipment. I also learnt how to work in a team.

For a future career I would not mind doing something similar to Wizzmo but I did not like the way that they had no guaranteed source of income as they did not always have work to do. However, sometimes they would get lots of work which means lots of money.

I don't think that the experience has changed my attitude to school. I know that I wouldn't be able to get a job like that without working for qualifications first.

PETER SALE

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In tune with the whole family: David (left), Clare, Katherine, Mary and John Gaunt, playing together in the garden

Sound of much music

More and more parents believe that music is vital to a child's education

Katherine Gaunt is 12 years old and plays the flute and the euphonium. Her sister Clare, aged 11, chose the clarinet and more recently added the tuba. David, aged nine, has opted for the cornet. Christopher, aged three, has yet to decide, although his father makes a wry guess that drums will be his choice.

John and Mary Gaunt believe that music is an important element of their children's development. "We want them to enjoy it," says Mr Gaunt, a lecturer in biochemistry at the University College of North Wales, Bangor, who plays the clarinet. "And I believe that a musical upbringing is important for their subsequent enjoyment of music."

That view is shared by an increasing number of parents. The Yamaha Music Schools in Britain offer a junior music course for four to six-year-olds. Last autumn 1,000 children enrolled for it, double the previous year's figure. About 7,000 children of all ages regularly attend the courses, which teach keyboard, piano and organ.

The number of children taking the graded examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music has also increased dramati-

cally: at least 90 per cent of candidates are children. Applications for the next exams in March are up by 10,000 on this time last year and some candidates have been told they must wait until the summer to be tested.

The piano remains easily the most popular choice — almost 144,000 candidates out of a total of 367,000 took piano grades in 1990. Those taking the board's flute exams almost doubled between 1980 and 1990 (see table). A saxophone exam was introduced in 1986, when 1,212 candidates were tested. By 1990 the exam was divided into alto and tenor sax sections, for a total of 4,160

candidates. Percussion and the free bass accordion were included for the first time in 1990, with 23 and four candidates respectively.

Two years ago Andrew Lear, aged 14, became the first pupil to take saxophone lessons at Birkenhead School, an independent boys' school on the Wirral, after "feeling bored" with the piano. His parents, keen for him not to abandon music, spent about £1,000 on a saxophone and a clarinet for his brother Timothy, aged 11.

"He's definitely got a talent — you don't wince when you hear him play," says Sarah Lear, his mother. "Yet recently he would have given it up if

we had let him. We said no because it would be a shame to see talent wasted."

Graham Ellis, the director of music at Birkenhead, says there will be a waiting list for the first time due to the increasing demand for music lessons. More than 200 boys out of 850 in the senior school take lessons.

"Our piano timetable is the biggest, followed by the clarinet and flute," he says. "We have a number of violinists, although it has not been as popular an instrument as we would hope. It is difficult in the early stages."

However, he has noticed it becoming slightly more popular, almost certainly due, he feels, to Nigel Kennedy.

The fun of playing with others often helps youngsters to maintain their enthusiasm. Katherine, Clare and David Gaunt and their mother Mary, all play in the Beaumaris and District Silver Band, near their home on Anglesey, Gwynedd.

"We enjoy the band, because it's something we can do as a family," Mrs Gaunt says. "I think that is why the piano can be limiting, because it is more difficult to play with others."

LYNNE GREENWOOD

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Total number of candidates (of which approximately 90 per cent are schoolchildren) who have taken Associated Board exams, including theory:

	1970	1980	1990
Piano	92,553	139,584	143,831
Violin	18,434	36,071	36,748
Flute	2,562	17,886	30,133
Clarinet	5,261	20,468	29,187
Trumpet	1,828	7,388	7,573
Harp	28	107	674
All instruments	164,775	326,383	367,263

Source: Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

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House of the future

Energy conservation need not cost the earth. Rachel Kelly reports

Go to Denmark, and you will find cheap, environmentally friendly houses are two a penny. Stay in this country, and your best bet is Longwood, in Huddersfield, where a rare example is being built.

Steve Slater and Bill Butcher hope to finish their "green" house next month. It will go on sale for £105,000, about £5,000 more than it would have cost without energy-conserving features. Mr Butcher estimates that in 15 years the house will have paid back the extra investment.

"The house would be deeply unexciting in Denmark," says Bob Lowe, the principal lecturer in the school of the environment at Leeds Polytechnic, who has been involved in the project since it was a gleam in Mr Butcher's eye two years ago.

"In Denmark they have building regulations that enforce more energy-saving features. In this country such a house is exceptional."

The methods used are tried and tested, Dr Lowe says. If you insulate buildings to these levels, energy consumption is correspondingly low. Emissions of carbon dioxide, which contribute to the greenhouse effect, are half the level laid down by building regulations.

The price and availability are atypical. "There have been other houses like this in the past, though admittedly very few," Dr Lowe says. "Eight similar houses were built by Salford City Council in the late 1970s and early 1980s. It was so impressed by them that it decided it would build all its council homes like this, and it built about 200. Then it stopped building homes. There were also 100 similar houses built in Milton Keynes."

In both cases, the houses were in the public sector. Progress in the private sector has been restricted to individ-

uals with money to spare and a penchant for energy-saving gadgets who have built their own homes.

"It is the first case I know of speculative house-building of this sort at an affordable price," Dr Lowe says. "This is being built by two builders sticking their necks out for a house that will halve the carbon dioxide output of a normal house."

Why does Mr Butcher think he can sell his house? There is a market, he believes, for an affordable, energy-efficient home. "We have been careful not to price the house out of the market. You can add more and more energy-saving features, but you have to be careful not to do too expensive."

Mr Butcher has forgone optional extras such as a heat-

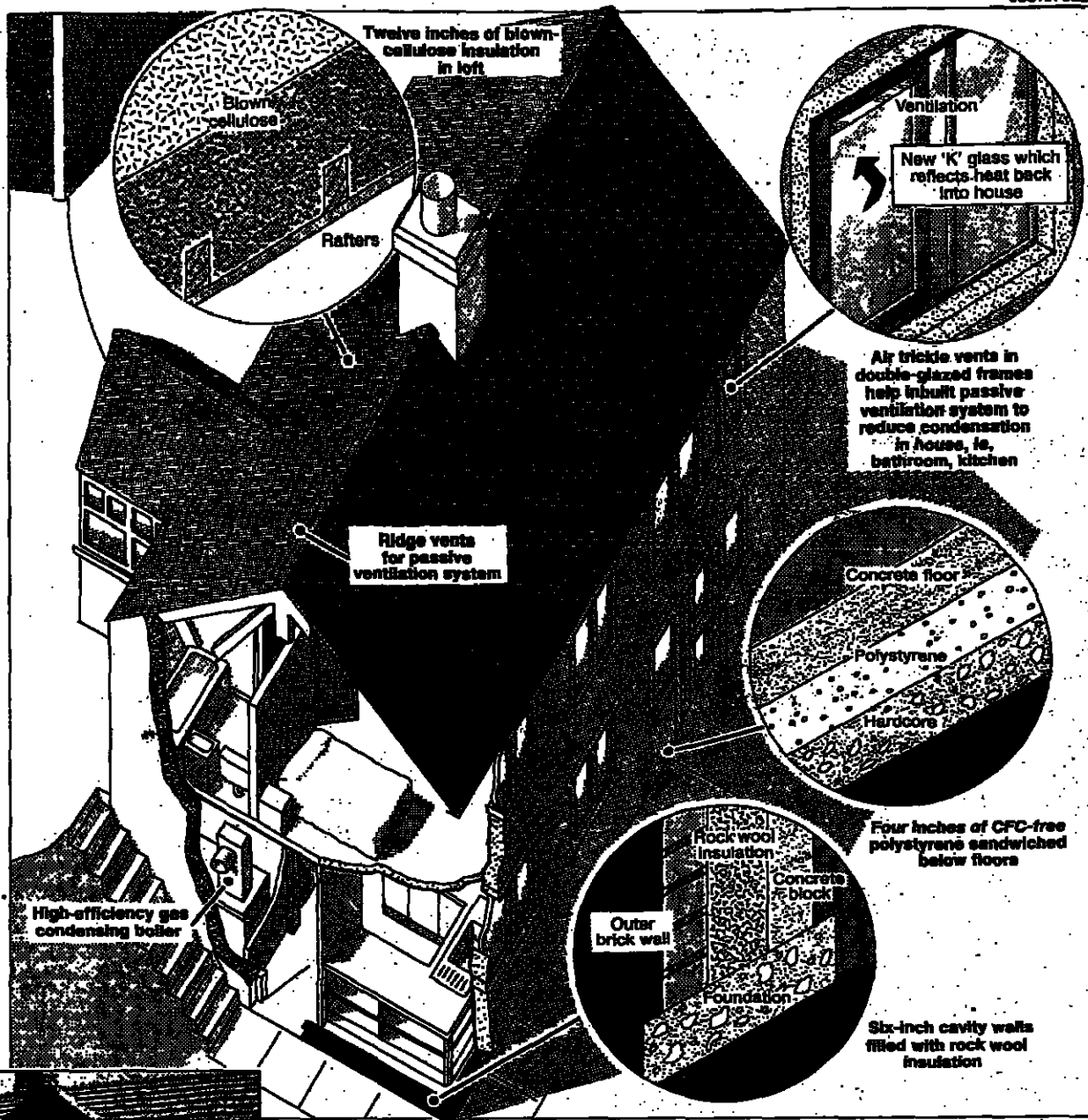


Green visionaries: Bill Butcher (left) and Steve Slater

recovery system, which transfers heat extracted from warm air leaving the house to the incoming fresh air, and solar panels, which supplement heating and hot water systems.

Through their first prototype house, the builders hope to test the demand. They will build more this year if they find a market exists.

The construction industry does not cater for affordable, energy-efficient homes, Dr



insulated house there is no need for a full central heating system, but few builders will build half a system.

The marketing of such homes is tricky, too. Unless you are an expert who appreciates the finer differences between low-emissivity double-glazing and a condensing boiler, a visit to the house will reveal nothing exceptional.

"Try selling this sort of technology to your granny. In a house like this it doesn't show. And there is no widely accepted system of badges to reward energy efficiency at the moment," Dr Lowe says.

The government could help, Dr Lowe says, by introducing tougher building regulations including better training for builders, and demanding a system of energy tax, which would make people aware of the environmental effects of energy consumption.

Builders could help by being more like Mr Butcher and Mr Slater. Mr Butcher trained as a quantity surveyor

and feels passionately about conserving the environment. "This is the house of the future," he says. "This is the way that developing countries will have to go. Consumption of energy is now so high that fossil fuels are running out."

The house features a high-efficiency gas condensing boiler, which extracts more of the heat from the flue gases and uses 15 per cent less gas for the amount of heat generated than the standard boiler, so only half the heating energy should be used.

Built on a 500 sq. m. site, the house is south-facing and therefore warmer, and has been built into the hillside so that the ground acts as insulation.

Most of the windows will be on the south side to take maximum advantage of the sun, and they will all be double-glazed with "K" glass, which has an extra copper film to reflect heat back into the room. This will reduce

heat loss by 40 to 50 per cent. Even with this glazing, the windows are still the Achilles heel. "The heat loss through them is eight times the rate through the walls."

Loft insulation will be 100 per cent above building regulations, and the walls and floors will be three times better insulated than the standard new house.

There are 6m rather than the standard 2m cavity walls, filled with rock wool. The loft has 12in of non-irritant blown cellulose, made from recycled newspaper. Below the floors there is a 4in layer of CFC-free polystyrene. A ventilation system will avoid condensation. Other features include a porch at the front door and a lobby at the back to cut heat loss.

The success of these measures is confirmed by the National Home Energy Foundation, which awards a home energy rating from one to ten. The Longwood house will achieve almost the maximum.

Building up sex appeal

A separate 'den' for the man of the house is the newest sales gimmick

A British builder is using sex appeal to sell homes. Berkeley Homes is building four houses with what it describes as "man appeal" in Oxshott, Surrey.

No, they are not filled with pornographic videos or musicals. Their chief manly virtue is a "den", furnished with a snooker table, above the garage.

After considerable research, Berkeley found that this was the single feature a man most appreciated in his home. "Men liked the idea of having a games room separate from the rest of the house," says Peter Owen, the managing director of Berkeley Homes (Surrey and Thames Valley).

Having a triple garage is also a hit with the men, Mr Owen says. "A garage means that a car or motorcycle enthusiast can use it to enjoy his hobby without encroaching on the rest of the family."

But what about cries of sexism? After all, the houses provide no special rooms with "woman appeal".

"A good point," Mr Owen says. "But the man's room is an extra room. We're not saying we should convert an existing room that a woman is using, but we're giving a whole new room. I can only say that if the man is out of the way, his wife can keep the drawing room and other rooms for herself."

In other words, she can stay in the kitchen? "No. I'm not saying a woman's place is in the kitchen. But it has always

been a fact that a beautiful kitchen will help sell a house to women."

Man appeal has already sold Berkeley's show house to a family with four sons aged between 16 and 22. "There's no doubt that they were attracted by the snooker room," Mr Owen says. Three other houses are under construction, one of which has been reserved.

To keep their wives happy, Mr Owen says, the bathrooms and kitchens are "as good as any you'll find".

Sexist or not, Mr Owen's views are confirmed by a survey by Stern Studios, which sells small flats in London and has analysed the different priorities of men and women when buying a property.

Women, Stern Studios found, rated location in a safe area as their most important priority in choosing a flat. They gave this a score of nine, while men rated it at only three.

Decorative style was more important to women than to men. Women gave decor five out of ten, compared with the men's two.

Overall, both men and women rated accessibility as the most important factor in choosing a home. But a man's chief priority, according to the survey, was the investment potential. Men gave this seven out of ten, women only four.

RACHEL KELLY



Role play: for him, a games room above the garage

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LAW TIMES

Mass rally for justice

Proposed changes
in legal aid have
angered solicitors.
Frances Gibb puts
their case

The first national protest rally by lawyers in legal history takes place tomorrow when nearly 2,000 solicitors assemble at Westminster Central Hall in London. Never before have so many lawyers, united in a single cause, gathered in one place. They will register their anger and concern over government proposals for a system of fixed fees for legal aid work in magistrates' courts.

Anger is not too strong a word. Anthony Edwards, a legal aid lawyer in east London, put it forcefully last week at a special general meeting of the Law Society. Solicitors' frustration, he said, had "turned to fury".

Mr Edwards told the meeting that Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, had said his proposals were in the interests of the client. Mr Edwards said: "We do this work for the benefit of the client, and we expect the Lord Chancellor, as head of the judiciary, to uphold that principle above all. That he is not doing so has turned our frustration to fury."

The fixed fees scheme, to replace the system of payment by hourly rates in magistrates' courts, has provoked the first threats of what amount to industrial action by the legal profession. Solicitors in Devon, Teesside, Southampton and Crawley, West Sussex, have threatened to boycott the duty rota scheme in courts and police stations where they advise suspects.

In Barnsley, South Yorkshire, all 18 solicitors on the rota scheme have withdrawn, leaving suspects thumping through telephone directories at night to find a lawyer.

The issue may seem like a trade union one. Solicitors dislike the proposals, it could be said, because they will earn less from legal aid. The proposals, however, affect more than solicitors' pay. They go to the heart of access to justice for ordinary people when they most need it. Lawyers feel the criminal legal aid scheme itself is on the line, and they have wide support for that view among their conveying and commercial law colleagues.

Wealthy City firms charging £250 an hour, which have ridden out the recession with little difficulty, are not at the centre of this dispute. The lawyers affected are at the sharp end, the ones who leave their beds to deal with often



For the defence (from left): Ivan Geffen, Henry Hodge, Michael Fisher, Danny Simpson and Alastair Logan at the Law Society

difficult, drunken or abusive clients. Nor are they doing the work because they cannot get better. Most legal aid lawyers do the work because they are committed.

That dedication has had its price over the years. Legal aid lawyers have endured steadily falling rates of pay in recent years. The hourly rate for criminal work, outside London, is £42, compared with £55 for family work and £75-£90 an hour for other civil work. From next April, Lord Mackay

'We work for the client. We expect Lord Mackay to uphold that principle'
ANTHONY EDWARDS

has just offered a rise of 3 per cent — originally 1 per cent — in criminal legal aid fees, dismissed by the Law Society as "derisory".

Then "there" is the "delay in payment. Solicitors wait several months for their fees. Most legal aid firms operate on bank overdrafts. A senior partner aged, say, 40, will be lucky to take home £30,000. Many earn far less.

The proposed scheme would pay

solicitors a fixed fee according to the kind of work, the idea being that in some cases they may earn more, in others less. However, the result, they say, will be catastrophic for those clients who need more care and attention on their cases. In some cases, solicitors are carrying a £200 loss.

In an unprecedented line-up this week, leading defence solicitors involved in recent miscarriages of justice spelt out the likely effects.

Danny Simpson, who represented Mark Braithwaite, one of the Tottenham three, said solicitors had the choice of doing the work at an unacceptable standard or going bankrupt. The scheme would mean a 30 to 50 per cent drop in his firm's income.

Mr Simpson said: "We won't be around to help people such as Mark Braithwaite and Winston Silcott or the Guildford four because we won't be around at all."

Michael Fisher, who represented Paul Hill, one of the Guildford four, predicted: "Lawyers in their thousands will cease to practise criminal law. The proposals are a recipe for further injustice cases. I would say it is inevitable."

Ivan Geffen, involved in the Birmingham six cases, said: "It is not solicitors threatening to withdraw their services. It is the Lord Chancellor making it impossible for us to provide them."

Alastair Logan, a tireless cam-

paigner for the Maguire and three of the Guildford four, said: "The message is that we as a profession are not prepared to accept the lowering of our standards implicit in these fees. It is not a question of our saying, 'You are not giving us enough money'. We are not prepared to take a case on if we cannot do it properly."

Henry Hodge, who acted for Silcott, said: "It is the ordinary cases, the ordinary people who will suffer."

'Lawyers in their thousands will cease to practise criminal law'
MICHAEL FISHER

Such cases, says Charles Elly, of the Law Society, could be "your brother picked up in a pub brawl and charged with assault, or your mother who inadvertently put a joint of meat in her bag and was charged with shoplifting."

Solicitors will wait to hear what Lord Mackay has to say before deciding on a boycott. The threat is real enough but the impact would be minimal. The Law Soci-

ety has already made clear it does not condone withdrawals and Lord Mackay knows that solicitors, like doctors, will not take large-scale action that hurts the client. In brief, solicitors have no industrial muscle.

Fixed fees have already come into the crown court, but with significant differences. They cover 60 per cent not 90 per cent of cases committed for trial; they do not include advocacy time; they limit the maximum loss in any case to £60; and they pay for the crucial listening of tape-recordings of police interviews separately.

Fixed fees in magistrates' courts also include bail applications, so if a solicitor has to spend the morning making a bail application to a crown court judge, he loses a morning's work.

Lord Mackay rightly wants to curb criminal legal aid costs, but if in so doing he drives out practitioners, the cost in terms of miscarriage of justice is uncalculable. The Law Society wants the issue referred to the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice. Lord Mackay is unlikely to concede that, but he has not explained why he cannot amend the scheme along crown court lines.

If Lord Mackay goes ahead, lawyers cannot stop him. If, however, their warnings prove correct, and many abandon the scheme, it will be too late to restore the service. The losers will be not solicitors, but the public.

Why printouts were hearsay

THE decisions of magistrates' courts that computer evidence is inadmissible as proof that people have not paid their poll tax may have led some observers to agree with Bertie Wooster in P.G. Wodehouse's *The Mating Season*: "I have said it before, and I will say it again, all magistrates are asses. Show me a magistrate and I will show you a fathead."

Critics should be directing their scorn at one of the more ridiculous aspects of our legal system: the law of evidence.

Lord Wilberforce explained in 1977 that it is well established that "a rule is none the less capable of being a rule of law, though no reason can be given for it". However, it is rare to have a whole area of legal rules whose object and effect is to frustrate the promotion of justice. The law of evidence habitually prevents courts from learning what everybody but a lawyer would consider relevant to the decision. Computer evidence in poll tax cases is a perfect example of the mischief.

Why should a civil court deciding whether a payer has discharged his or her poll tax liability be prevented from taking into account the local authority's computer printout showing that the bill has not been paid, and from weighing this against the defendant's evidence that the computer records are unreliable and that the bill has been met? The legal reason for this reluctance to consider computer evidence is the rule against hearsay.

Lord Reid justifiably complained in a 1964 judgment that the relevant law is "absurdly technical" and it is "difficult to make any general statement about the law of hearsay evidence which is entirely accurate".

Philpott on Evidence, one of the leading textbooks, makes a valiant effort: "Oral or written statements made by persons who are not parties and who are not called as witnesses are inadmissible to prove the truth of the matters stated."

Giving less weight to such hearsay evidence than to direct evidence may, of course, be rational. Preventing courts from having any regard to it, however, is unjustifiable in principle.

To limit the damage caused by this arbitrary fetter, Parliament and judges have created a complex and confusing set of exceptions to the hearsay rule. The Civil Evidence Act 1968 states the circumstances in which statements from computers are admissible. The problem in the poll tax context is that the relevant provision has not been implemented to cover proceedings in magistrates' courts.

The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 contains

similar, but different, provisions defining the circumstances in which computer evidence is admissible in criminal proceedings. The cases decided under that act show the fine and difficult distinctions involved in the rule against hearsay.

In a 1988 Court of Appeal judgment dealing with two such cases, Mr Justice Steyn said: "In each case prosecuting counsel, defence counsel and the judge fundamentally misunderstand the meaning of these statutory provisions in their application to the admissibility of computer printouts. It is our impression that this misunderstanding may not be restricted to those who were involved in the two appeals before us."

Following an article in the *Criminal Law Review* by Professor J.C. Smith in 1981, the criminal courts have distinguished between computer evidence resulting from information supplied by human beings, which is therefore hearsay, and information supplied by a computer that has automatically recorded an event. So in 1990 the Court of Appeal held that the computer records of telephone calls made from a hotel room were not hearsay and were admissible, because the machine automatically recorded those events without human intervention. The court concluded that such computer evidence is no different in principle from the evidence of photographs, tape-recordings and Intoximeter breath-test machines, all of which are admissible.

The magistrates who have rejected the admissibility of computer printouts in poll tax cases were probably correct under existing law in regarding such evidence as inadmissible hearsay. The councils employ human beings to provide to the computer information about payments made, so any printout is a hearsay statement of what has and has not been fed into the computer by the operators.

The law of evidence mitigates its rigours by permitting courts to take judicial notice of obvious facts. So Sergeant Shee confidently submitted in 1845 that "the court will take judicial notice that rain falls from time to time". Parliament will soon act to make sure that computer evidence is admissible in poll tax cases, and should also take notice that the law of evidence itself is, as Jeremy Bentham complained more than 150 years ago, "rotten to the core" because it fails to apply the principle, "Let in the light of evidence. The end it leads to is the direct end of justice, rectitude of decision."

● The author is a practising barrister and a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford



DAVID PANNICK

How safe are your secrets with your lawyer?

Can you trust a lawyer with secrets? The theft of a highly confidential document from the office safe of the solicitor acting for Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, raises the question of how safe lawyers are at keeping secrets.

Can clients really entrust their darkest secrets to their solicitor in order to obtain advice, or should they keep quiet?

Keeping clients' affairs confidential is enshrined in the professional rules of solicitors but there are no guidelines on how the secrets should be kept.

Andrew Phillips, Mr Ashdown's solicitor, thought he was being

prudent in keeping his note of the discussions with Mr Ashdown in an envelope in the office safe.

With the benefit of hindsight, it is easy to say that in any burglary the safe would be a prime target, and that anything really sensitive should be dealt with differently. But what are the options?

The obvious starting point is to discuss the matter with the client as soon as he or she raises the sensitive topic. Often lawyer and client agree that nothing will be committed to writing unless it is absolutely necessary.

If it is necessary to open a file and keep detailed notes, there are several possibilities.

David Crawford, a solicitor with

considerable experience of dealing discreetly with the affairs of the rich and famous, favours code-names. He says: "I open a file in the name of Mr X and the name of the client is then known only to me. Any notes taken will not contain full names and are carefully written so that they can be interpreted only by me. Even my secretary does not know who the client is."

Even the tabloids would clearly be hard-pressed to make use of a statement such as: "X admitted to a long-standing affair with Y."

Mr Crawford also points to the risk of disaffected staff making

use of sensitive information if they know of its existence. "The safest way is to make sure that only you know about the file."

If there are many names involved, the use of coded notes demands prodigious feats of memory by the solicitor.

One subtle refinement is to keep notes that are deliberately wrong. For example, in circumstances such as Mr Ashdown's, a note would be made that Mr Ashdown was concerned about a friend of his who had been involved with a woman. If the note fell into the wrong hands it might arouse suspicion but there would be little of substance to go on. Another variation is to record

the interview as an informal discussion about the plot for a novel. Many politicians write books and it is hardly unusual for the legal aspect to be discussed with a solicitor.

Again, the risk of damage is much reduced.

Many solicitors will certainly be anxiously reviewing their office security systems in the wake of the Ashdown case. The stakes are high. As one solicitor said last week: "What is the measure of damages if you negligently let somebody's ghastly secrets out all over Fleet Street?"

PATRICK STEVENS

● The author is a practising solicitor

Back to the City

RICHARD Thomas, who has been the consumer affairs director at the Office of Fair Trading, is returning to a City law firm. He is joining Clifford Chance as its first director of public policy practice, building up a new area of work, described by the firm as "governmental practice", in which Mr Thomas will be involved in helping clients whose businesses interact with government.

Mr Thomas is a good choice. He has wide experience in governmental and political circles. He began his career as a solicitor in a City law firm and later played a key role in developing the legal work of the Citizens' Advice Bureau. He was with the National Consumer Council for seven years before the Office of Fair Trading and was a member of the Lord Chancellor's civil justice review team that reported on ways to cut costs and delays in civil courts.

He is a keen supporter of the Plain English for Lawyers campaign.

Better ways

THE Hansard Society Commission, which wrote the 1989 report, *Women at the Top*, emphasising exactly how few senior women law-

yers there are, is considering how improvements can be made to the law-making process in England and Wales.

The commission will look in particular at the public consultation process, asking whether there is enough opportunity to comment on prospective legislation, and at the drafting of acts of Parliament, questioning whether they are readily understood.

Tough lot

BAILIFFS, like banks and insurance companies, seem to need the right address. Rosendale C.B., a firm of bailiffs at Rosendale, Lancashire, has as its registered office "Hardman Mill". Liverpool is one area in which it collects debts, so it is obviously important not to be known as a soft touch.

Euro-link

EUROPE has come to the Bar, or so it seemed last week. The opening of Stanbrook and Henderson, a new joint set of barristers' chambers, was attended and much praised by Lord Templeman, the pro-Europe law lord. The merger is created from Roger Henderson's set at 2 Harcourt Buildings and Stanbrook & Hooper, from

Brussels, making a Euro-set of 37 barristers offering a range of English and European legal expertise.

Stanbrook & Hooper caused a stir last year when it set up in Chancery Lane. This was because in Brussels the members, including the barristers, were in partnership with one another, as allowed under foreign practice rules.

The arrival of the set on the Bar's doorstep raised a question mark over the rules on partnerships with lawyers in Britain. The new arrangement causes no problems, however, because it was carefully cleared with the Bar beforehand.

Clive Stanbrook, QC, said at the launch last week: "The rising tide of EC law has now reached everyone from Fishguard to Folkestone and from Berwick to Bodmin."

Italian prize

EDITING the *Industrial Relations Law Reports* is a worthy ambition for any employment lawyer. Editing the *Industrial Relations Law Reports* and being voted European Man of the Year by the 15,000-member Italian Club of Women might well be beyond the fantasies of even the most ambitious legal expert. This has been the achievement of Michael Ru-

binstein, who co-edits the *Equal Opportunities Review* for good measure.

He earned his Italian accolade through his authorship of the European Community report on sexual harassment and his involvement in the drafting of the EC Commission's recommendation and code of conduct on how to combat sexual harassment inside and outside the workplace.

Mishtaken

SOLICITOR John Hulme is trying to live down a reputation for getting drunk and setting fire to police cells. His

He's been called to the bar



local newspaper in Shropshire, the *Border Counties Advertiser*, confused the solicitor with the defendant in a case at Oswestry magistrates' court and reported: "Mr

Hulme said he was very drunk, and could not remember what actually happened, but it was not his intention to cause any damage to the cell."

Fortunately, the magistrates knew him and were not similarly confused.

Top jobs

HERBERT Smith has announced that Edward Walker-Arnott will become the senior partner when the present incumbent John Rowson retires in May 1993.

Mr Walker-Arnott at present leads the firm's company and commercial practice, and rose to public prominence during the heady mid 1980s days of mergers and acquisitions frenzy, not least for his role in the House of Fraser takeover battle, which earned him a censure from trade and industry department inspectors.

Always strong in litigation, the firm expects this experience will prove invaluable when solicitors' rights of advocacy before the courts increase.

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PHILIP Naughton, QC, is a director of CEDR and not the director, as described in last week's *Law Times*.

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The Litigator's Complaint

As the recession deepens, we hear more complaints by litigation partners that they are carrying the entire partnership on their backs. During the long economic boom it was the litigation department which was regarded within most firms as being among the least profitable. Now the tables are turned. It is said that a partnership implies mutual support among the partners through good times and bad. During the 1980s commercial property departments produced large profits to add to the earnings of litigation partners: litigation departments now are only doing the same for property partners. If the non-contentious partner didn't complain when they contributed more than their share, why should the litigators raise this issue today? There must be a genuine reason. After all, litigators are not inherently more self-regarding than their colleagues. One explanation would be that they are usually in a minority within their practice. When the larger, non-contentious side of the practice suffers, therefore, the burden is thrown on relatively few shoulders. (If, on the contrary, it is the litigation side which is not doing so well, the non-contentious partners are less likely to find it.) Another explanation is that litigation is not a specialisation which experiences the kind of slump that can hit, say, property. Litigators tend to make a solid contribution to their firms through thick and thin. It is not for nothing, therefore, that they sometimes feel a nagging sense of grievance.

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A new look at adultery

Should adultery still be grounds for divorce? The legislators should reconsider, says Chris Barton

In the wake of last week's revelation of Paddy Ashdown's affair with his secretary, it is time for the government to reconsider enacting the Law Commission's proposals to abolish all existing grounds for divorce, including adultery.

The Liberal Democrat leader and his wife have stayed together after the "brief" affair, five years ago. But in 1989, the latest year for statistics, 28 per cent of divorces were granted on grounds of adultery. That obligatory annual reading, *Judicial Statistics*, the lawyer's *Wisden*, shows adultery as second only to "unreasonable behaviour" for every year since 1974. In 1989 unreasonable behaviour was the ground for 48 per cent of divorces.

This has more to do with the fact that unreasonable behaviour and adultery effectively allow for immediate divorce by consent, a good escape route for adults, but one now seen as inimicable to a proper consideration of the children's needs. Under the Law Commission proposals adultery could not be a cause.

Although adultery was once known as "criminal conversation", an American woman recently caught in *flagrante* was probably surprised to know that, under Wisconsin law, she was theoretically liable to a \$10,000 fine. Surveys on marital infidelity show that half our own married population might be expected to applaud the liberality of the old Scottish courts, which waived the death penalty in favour of whipping, the pillory or banishment.

Did those spouses who were the subjects of the surveys understand the question? Evidence given by solicitors to the Committee on One-Parent Families suggests that some of them may not have done. There were misunderstandings. Familiarities falling short of cohabitation, performing while standing up, intercourse on fewer than



A French view: Gerard Depardieu, and Josiane Balasko as the secretary-mistress, in the film *Trop Belle Pour Toi*

three occasions, and sex without a resulting pregnancy, have all, apparently, been known to emerge during "matrimonial" interviews.

In fact, it remains English law that, although consummation requires at least one experience of a penetration "ordinary and complete, not partial and imperfect", adultery is achieved by the merest appropriate interaction. In 1923, in a case in which the husband and "the woman named" had failed to manage even that, Lord Birkenhead sympathised with the "unfortunate circumstance that she (the wife) should thus be tied for life to a dangerous, violent and homicidal lunatic".

Although the choreographical details remain theoretically extant, the normal reality today is one of undefended divorce proceedings and a signed confession statement. However, before the introduction of judicial divorce in 1857, when an act of Parliament was necessary to dissolve a marriage, a wife had to show that her husband's adultery was "aggra-

vated". In 1840 a Mrs Battersby was one of the four who succeeded and she made it only on account of his cruelty, bigamy and ensuing transportation. Where the wife was the "guilty" party, a House of Commons functionary, the "Ladies' Friend" saw to it that the legislating husband made some

Today's reality is undefended divorces and a confession

provision for his former wife, however fallen.

The most recent statutory overhaul, the Divorce Reform Act 1969, tried to establish that physical infidelity is not necessarily a sure sign of irretrievable breakdown. During the passage of the Bill through the House of Com-

mons, Peter Mahon, MP for Preston South, pointed out: "Fidelity in marriage implies much more than the abstention from adultery." In the other place Lord Goodman said: "You may have adultery as a ground but you must not make a meal of it."

The upshot was that the act supposedly requires the petitioner to prove that "she" — in 1989, 60 per cent more adultery decrees were granted to women than to men — finds life with the respondent intolerable.

Unfortunately, the eventual wording failed to make clear whether the intolerability had to arise from the adultery, as opposed, say, to some completely extraneous habit such as cracking one's knuckles, and it was five years before the courts finally decided that the two requirements should be treated as independent of each other. Today, since the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act of 1984, the more important question is whether, for maintenance purposes, sexual

intercourse can constitute "conduct such that it would be inequitable to disregard".

The principle in the old ecclesiastical courts was that adulterous wives should be "fed with the bread of affliction and with the water of adversity". In one modern case, the wife who fired a shotgun at her husband had her share cut by a mere quarter, whereas another woman, who accepted a half share in the marital home while having an affair, was judicially decreed as "impudent" when she tried to hang on to it.

In another decision, the Court of Appeal said a young lover should contribute more to the household finances — and that the wife should seek supplementary benefit. The law seems to be moving away from Mr Justice Vaisey's adage that "it takes three to commit adultery".

After the election, perhaps the government will at last respond to the Law Commission's proposals.

■ The author is a principal lecturer in law at Staffordshire Polytechnic

Do lawyers miss the revolution?

Despite their heavy investment in computers, many law firms are barely scraping the surface of what information technology (IT) can do for them, according to a new report. The survey, by Touche Ross, the management consultants, will be published in full in *The Lawyer* newspaper later this month. It shows that many law firms, particularly those of medium size, have mastered the computer's clerical and secretarial functions but have not yet come to grips with some of its more sophisticated facilities.

Gary Simon, a Touche Ross partner, says: "Most of the interest in computers among lawyers has been focused on the back-office systems, but the real grossing areas lie elsewhere."

One of the survey's most teasing features is that most firms believe they are ahead of competitors in investment and use of computers. However, Touche Ross says, firms should concentrate on how well they are keeping up with their clients. On this, there is less confidence. Just over a quarter of firms think they are ahead of their clients. The rest face the prospect of trailing their clients in what their computers can do.

This is likely to be a handicap. Clients now appear very interested in the use of electronic mail and document exchange with their legal advisers.

Graeme Low, the acting head of IT at Nabarro Nathanson, agrees that the leading law firms have already moved into a new era with their computers.

He says: "Law firms characteristically have made a big investment in word-processing systems, particularly Wang systems, in recent years. But that was 95 per cent concerned with the internal running of the practice."

"The new horizon is the use of computers to communicate with clients, and the leading firms are now changing their systems to deal with that."

The likelihood is that at some point in the future clients will actually choose their lawyers, other things being equal, on the basis of computer compatibility. Eventually, perhaps such compatibility may become a prerequisite for entry into a "beauty parade", or selection competition. More immediately, the Touche Ross survey states, firms have to persuade

more of their fee earners to use their computers for straightforward word-processing tasks.

Information technology experts such as Mr Low would love to see a greater take-up of existing facilities but, Touche Ross says, firms are confused about what a "terminal on every desk" would be used for and how the benefits could be measured. None the less, more than 40 per cent of firms expect that "front-office systems" will "definitely" become vital to a firm's ability to compete and a similar number that they will "probably" become vital.

Although there is a widespread feeling that computers have become essential to the lawyer's work, there is a split between those who want to press on with more applications and those who



Gary Simon: the wrong focus

consider that that they have progressed as far as they wish.

In part, this is a feature of a generation split. Older partners are often unconvicted and younger partners enthusiastic about what computers can offer.

More immediately, however, is the problem that many firms feel too hard-pressed financially to invest much further in hardware. Two-thirds of firms think that a "terminal per desk" would contribute to the fee earners' productivity, but the cost of achieving such a goal is a powerful deterrent in present circumstances.

There is no question that the really big spenders on IT are the largest firms, but this does not mean that smaller firms are being entirely left behind. Some niche firms, for example, will be the most sophisticated users of computers in their particular field.

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If you are interested in any of the above positions or would like to discuss your career options please contact Nick Root (Private Practice) or Paul Mevis (Industry/Commerce) on 071-936 2565 (081-675 6384 or 081-946 5012 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Taylor Root, Ludgate House, 107 Fleet Street, London EC4A 3AB.

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To apply, please write with full CV to Maura Owens, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Chartered Accountants' Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2P 2BZ.

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Our Client, a prestigious international firm, seeks a banking and finance lawyer for its Singapore Office, to assist in the development of its South East Asian practice.

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The salary, benefits and career prospects offered will be first rate, to reflect the importance of this appointment.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Alistair Dougall or Stephen Rodney (both qualified lawyers) on 071-405 6062 (071-831-0030 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD (confidential fax no. 071-831 6394).

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Our client is a respected and high profile Central London practice, with a well-deserved reputation in the litigation field.

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An additional partner (or team of lawyers) is sought to join this group. With a strong corporate background and an established following of clients, the ideal candidate may be a sole practitioner or partner within another Central London practice.

This is a unique and challenging opportunity to play a major role in the development of a department. The successful candidate must have strong leadership and client development skills as well as a high level of technical expertise.

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For further information, please telephone Bridget O'Hare on 071 831 2000 or write to her at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Details will be held in strict confidence and will not be released to our client without express prior permission.

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The importance of this appointment is reflected in the attractive remuneration package and the prospect of an early partnership.

If you are interested in discussing the matter further in confidence, please telephone or write with a curriculum vitae, including details of your current salary package, to: Johanna Hassan, Personnel Manager, Elborne Mitchell, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6DS. Telephone: 071-283 7281 ext 245.

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Group Company Secretary

A mainly qualified Company Secretary with experience of working in large organisations is being sought to head up Legal, Personnel and Administration Departments, reporting to the Chief Executive. Principal responsibilities will include:

All legal aspects of the Company's constitution, property and personnel matters.

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Applicants should be a Member of Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators and preferably a qualified Solicitor with experience in commercial property law.

Group Personnel Manager

As part of a continued expansion process, greater emphasis is now being placed on the importance of human resources. As a result, the head of the Personnel Department is being sought to head up the Personnel Department. Principal responsibilities include:

Developing and implementing an induction programme.

Maintenance of a training programme, including induction responsibilities.

Enhancement and maintenance of our personnel records system.

Supporting other managers in all aspects of recruitment, management and personnel development.

Applicants should be IPED qualified, with a minimum of three years experience within the personnel function of a medium/large organisation. The successful applicant will be rewarded with the opportunity to help establish this new role within the Group.

Interested applicants, who are non-employees, should write, enclosing a full CV to:

Chief Executive
Brands Hatch Leasing plc
Fawkham
Longfield
Kent
DA3 8NG

No telephone applications accepted

House of Lords

Law Report February 11 1992

Court of Appeal

Coroner entitled to admit statements

Regina v HM Attorney General for Northern Ireland and Another, Ex parte Devine
Regina v Same, Ex parte Breslin

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle and Lord Browne-Wilkinson

[Speeches February 6]

A coroner had been entitled to admit in evidence at an inquest statements made to the police by three soldiers who had shot and killed three armed terrorists.

The House of Lords dismissed consolidated appeals by the applicants, William Hugh Devine and Joseph Breslin, the fathers of the deceased, from the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland (Sir Brian Hutton, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Kelly and Mr Justice Higgins) who on December 6, 1990, had dismissed appeals by the fathers from Mr Justice Carswell. The judge had dismissed the fathers' applications for judicial review of the verdicts at the inquest.

Rule 17 of the Coroners (Practice and Procedure) Rules (Northern Ireland) (SR & O (NI) 1963 No 199), as substituted by rule 2 of and the Schedule to the Coroners (Practice and Procedure) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) (SI (NI) 1980 No 444), provides:

"(1) A document may be admitted in evidence at an inquest if the coroner considers that the statement is a witness by the maker of the document is unnecessary and the document is produced from a

source considered reliable by the coroner.
(2) If such a document is admitted in evidence... the inquest may, at the discretion of the coroner, be adjourned to enable the maker of the document to give oral evidence if the coroner or any properly interested person reasonably so desires."

Mr Reginald Weir, QC, Mr B. G. McCartney (Breslin) and Miss A. M. McGuinness (Devine) (all of the Northern Ireland Bar) for the fathers; Mr F. P. Girvan, QC and Mr Stephen J. Shaw (both of the Northern Ireland Bar) for the second respondent, the coroner.

LORD GOFF said that the fathers' case had been that the coroner had had no power to admit the statements without the soldiers attending as witnesses.

However, under rule 9(2) of the 1963 Rules, a person suspected of causing the death was not compellable to give evidence at the inquest.

The coroner had accordingly held that the soldiers were not compellable witnesses and admitted the statements specifically under rule 17, they being in each case produced by the police officer to whom they had been made.

In agreement with the judge and the Court of Appeal, his Lordship could not see that rule 17 had the effect of excluding evidence that might otherwise be admissible, even if it was in documentary form.

In particular, he could not see that it excluded the power of a coroner, who had historically not been bound by the strict rules of evidence applicable in litigation, to admit hearsay evidence other-

wise proved simply because it had been reduced to documentary form.

The statements had been proved to have been given to the police officers by the officers in question. Had they not been recorded in writing, rule 17 would obviously have been irrelevant and it would have been open to the coroner to admit them in evidence, although the evidence had in the circumstances been hearsay.

As it was, the statements had been recorded in writing, but it would be absurd that that fact should have rendered such evidence inadmissible. The conclusion of the courts below was fully supportable on that basis.

The coroner, however, had in fact purported to admit the evidence under rule 17 and the question arose whether he had been justified in doing so. The judge and the Court of Appeal had concluded that he had not been, on the basis that rule 17(1) was confined to cases where the evidence was formal and uncontroversial.

On that basis, "unnecessary" would not be wide enough to embrace circumstances in which the maker of the document was not available to attend to give oral evidence.

He might, for example, not be so available because he was dead or ill or overseas, or because if summoned to attend he would not be compellable as a witness, or because by reason of supervening insanity he would be incapable of giving evidence.

In none of those circumstances could the coroner, on that ap-

proach, invoke rule 17(1) to admit documentary evidence.

That construction would lead to a remarkable limitation on the powers of coroners. It was not to be forgotten that an inquest was not an adversarial process but an inquisition designed to ascertain the true facts.

His Lordship was satisfied that "unnecessary" in the 1963 rule 17(1) should be given a broad and sensible construction and that the attendance of a witness could properly be regarded by the coroner as unnecessary where he considered that there was no need for the witness to attend for the purpose of giving oral evidence.

That could, of course, be so where the witness's oral evidence would, if given, be formal and uncontroversial.

But it could also be so in other circumstances, for example where the witness was available to attend the inquest but his attendance would be futile, as where he was not compellable to give evidence or was otherwise incapacitated from doing so, for example by insanity, or, *a fortiori*, where he was not available to attend, for

example, because he had died or was ill or overseas.

Only in that way could the first two paragraphs of the 1963 rule 17 be sensibly reconciled as forming constituent parts of the same rule.

The construction of the new rule 17 could properly be considered against the legislative background and "unnecessary" should be given the same effect as should have been given to it in the original rule 17(1).

Such a construction was consistent with the evident intention to enlarge the coroner's powers under the new rule 17 and avoiding the manifest absurdity of construing the new rule as intended to impose a new and substantial fetter on his power of the kind that would otherwise result.

LORD KEITH, Lord Oliver, Lord Jauncey and Lord Browne-Wilkinson agreed.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co for John Fahy & Co, Strabane (Breslin) and McCann & Keohane, Strabane (Devine); Treasury Solicitor for Crown Solicitor, Belfast.

Homily criticised

Regina v Turkey

When passing sentence it was not necessary to make remarks to the prisoner which effectively amounted to a homily.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggatt, Mr Justice Hinchinson and Mr Justice Laws) so stated on February 6 in dismissing an appeal by Arthur George Turkey against a sentence of 2½ years imprisonment for

burglary imposed in May 1991 at Kingstonbridge Crown Court (Mr Assistant Recorder J. Curtis).

MR JUSTICE LAWS said that the assistant recorder in passing sentence made remarks to the prisoner amounting to some three pages of transcript. Without wishing to be critical, it must rarely be necessary for the court to enter into a homily of that kind.

Deducting indexation allowance for tax

Smith (Inspector of Taxes) v Schofield
Before Lord Justice Giddens, Lord Justice Beldam and Lord Justice Nolan
[Judgment February 6]

To calculate the capital gains tax payable on a gain accruing on the disposal of assets acquired before 1965 and computed in accordance with "straight line growth" apportionment, the indexation allowance was to be deducted from the amount of the post-1965 time-apportioned gain.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mrs Rosemary Beatrice Schofield, against an assessment to the tax for 1986-87 from the judgment of Mr Justice Hoffmann (The Times July 11, 1990; [1990] 1 W.L.R. 1447) that had required deduction of the indexation allowance from the whole of the gain accruing between the acquisition of the assets and their disposal.

The Crown was given leave to appeal to the House of Lords on undertaking to pay the taxpayer's costs.

The taxpayer acquired antiques in 1962 for £250. She sold them in 1987 for £15,800. Her gain fell to be apportioned under the "straight line growth" provisions of paragraph 11 of Schedule 5 to the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979, the amount of the gain attributable to the post-1965 period of ownership being the chargeable gain.

The taxpayer appealed against

an assessment to the tax made on the basis that the indexation allowance, introduced by the Finance Act 1982 to prevent the payment of tax on gains caused by inflation, was to be deducted from the whole of the amount of the gain accruing to the taxpayer between 1962 and 1987.

A special commissioner allowed that appeal holding that section 86 of the 1982 Act, as amended by section 68 of and Schedule 19 to the Finance Act 1985, permitted the allowance to be deducted only from the post-1965 gain computed after time apportionment. The Crown appealed.

Section 86(4) of the Finance Act 1982 provided that the indexation allowance would be set against the unindexed gain so as to give the gain for the purposes of the 1979 Act.

Section 86(2) defined "unindexed gain" as "the amount of the gain... on the disposal computed in accordance with Chapter II of Part II of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979".

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Stephen Allcock for the taxpayer; Mr Nicholas Warren for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE NOLAN said that the outcome of the case would determine the liability of others who had acquired assets before April 6, 1965, disposed of them between 1965 and 1988 and whose gains were to be computed on the time apportionment basis. As to disposals after April 1988 the law was changed by section 96 of the Finance Act 1988.

The case turned on the construction of section 86(2) and (4) of the 1982 Act. Did the unindexed gain defined in section 86(2) against which the indexation allowance was to be set under section 86(4) mean the gain computed before or after the time apportionment provisions of paragraph 11 of Schedule 5 to the 1979 Act were applied?

Did "gain" mean the whole gain or the chargeable gain? It could mean either according to the context.

Section 86(2) defined the unindexed gain as the amount of the gain on the disposal computed in accordance with Chapter II of Part II of the 1979 Act. Chapter II of Part II included Schedule 5.

The purpose of Schedule 5 was to ensure that the tax applied only to gains accruing after April 6, 1965. For that reason alone, giving the words of section 86(2) their normal meaning in the context in which they appeared, the taxpayer's argument was to be preferred.

Moreover, further indications in section 28(1) of the 1979 Act and in section 86(4) of the 1982 Act supported that view and accorded with the taxpayer's case that the indexation allowance was to be deducted from the post 1965 chargeable gain.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Giddens agreed.

Solicitors: Hewison Becke & Shaw, Cambridge; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Scots Law Report, p13

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Operating as both Members' Agents and Managing Agents in the Lloyd's market, our Client has a reputation for innovation. It focuses on being at the forefront in the classes of business it underwrites and continues to develop niche market areas.

This dynamic group has now identified a need for a part-time legal adviser with extensive experience of the insurance market to deal with the regulatory aspects of its business and handle the affairs of group companies.

The ideal candidate will be a self-motivated lawyer who combines an in-depth knowledge of the insurance sector with commercial acumen. Personality is of paramount importance and the individual should demonstrate not only the requisite technical skills but also the ability to communicate prompt practical advice.

The salary and benefits package will be highly attractive to a lawyer seeking a hands-on role in a fast-moving City environment.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Sallie Hawkins on 071-405 6062 (081-540 9709 evenings/weekends) or write to her at Quarry Dougal Commerce & Industry Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD (confidential fax no. 071-831 6394).

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Leeds

Significant change has taken place at the Legal Aid Board with the aim of improving the quality of service provided. The process of change is on-going and the future promises to be interesting and challenging for everyone involved.

We are now looking for a solicitor to join our Leeds office to assist the solicitor section and the legal section in achieving our aims.

You will be a member of our solicitor's team continuously liaising with other sections of the office, making decisions on legal aid applications, attending Area Committees, quality controlling legal decisions and training staff on legal topics. The civil litigation workload of the office is extremely varied and will form the largest part of your work.

Two years experience of civil litigation is essential, and the ability to handle a large workload is a pre-requisite. Good oral and written communication skills are essential as you will be expected to communicate with organisations and people at all levels. You should have a methodical approach to your work, an ability to pay attention to detail and be able to organise and prioritise your workload.

The post is open for job sharing and applications from solicitors who wish to work on a part-time basis will be given serious consideration.

The Leeds office is situated in the centre of town and is well served by public transport facilities. If you wish to discuss the job further, please telephone Glynys Stacey, Area Manager, on 0532 442851.

If you think you have the right qualities and experience, please send a CV and covering letter, quoting ref LAB/8, to the Personnel & Training Department, Legal Aid, Greencroft House, 12 Roger Street, London WC1N 2JL, to be received no later than 28 February 1992.

SUBSTANTIAL PROPERTY CONNECTION

We are a medium-sized Central London Law firm with a thriving commercial practice and a busy Property Department.

We would like to talk to a Partner or small team with a substantial property based connection, particularly where there is scope for synergy with our corporate and litigation departments.

Please reply in strict confidence to Box No: 7186

No Agencies

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The British Nuclear Forum, the information and trade association for the nuclear power industry, needs a capable, hard-working assistant editor for its *Nuclear Forum* magazine, who will also be involved with other publications and communications projects. Editorial, writing and production experience are essential. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package including pension. Please send CVs stating current salary to:

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22 Buckingham Gate
London SW1E 6LB

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We are looking for someone with energy, initiative and flair to support - and actively contribute to - the work of the Chairman of the County Council in representing the County Council and the County of East Sussex. Working in the County town of Lewes, you will be responsible for managing the Chairman's Office and annual programme of events. You will support the Chief Executive in his role as Clerk to the Lieutenantcy (the Lord Lieutenant is the Queen's representative in the County) and Secretary to the Advisory Committee for appointing Justices of the Peace. You will arrange Royal visits, a wide range of County Council functions and help develop the County Council's links with other European countries. We would like to hear from you if you have:

- undertaken this kind of role and can demonstrate the contribution you would bring to the job;
- a knowledge of public service and civic procedures and protocol;
- experience and understanding at a senior level of the working of a large organisation;
- interpersonal, communication and organisational skills of the highest order.

• an additional European language;
• a current driving licence.
For further details and application form telephone Tina Darby/Sonia Brown on Lewes (0273) 481573/481901 or write to the Personnel Officer, Petham House, St Andrew's Lane, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1UR.
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Closing date for receipt of application forms 21 February 1992.

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ASA International

Commercial Property Lawyer

Our client is a highly successful, prestigious law firm with established offices in Scotland and London. They now wish to recruit an experienced English Commercial Property Solicitor to advise clients principally on the property implications of corporate transactions and all aspects of secured lending. The successful applicant will take a lead role in the development of this section of the practice and will be encouraged to become involved in all other areas of commercial property work. An interest in being based in Scotland will be welcomed.

The ideal candidate will have good

commercial property experience gained in a medium to large firm. With 3 to 6 years' post qualifying experience and an English Practising Certificate held for at least 3 years, it would also be advantageous to have either trained in a Scottish legal office or have dual qualifications.

The position represents a first class opportunity to play a crucial role in the growth of this key department and the continued success of the firm. The rewards will be excellent, including real prospects of partnership.

Lawyers whose attitudes and ambitions match those of our client should apply in writing, enclosing a CV to:

Anne Harding,
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The road to becoming a qualified actuary is paved with difficulty; many students fail the exams. Neil Harris looks at the figures

The calculated risk of hard work

Suppose that you and your friends want to hold an extravagant party 25 years from now. To afford this, you might want to work out how much each of you must contribute and what would happen if one of you died or for any other reason did not show up? To find the answers, you would need to employ an actuary, who would use mathematical techniques, including the theory of probability.

Pensions, investment and insurance are the areas in which the actuary predominates, but the road to becoming qualified is paved with difficulty. The pass rate for the last four of the ten professional examinations was down to 41 per cent in 1990. Some of the 600 students who start training in Britain every year find it possible to complete their studies within three years; others go on for more than twice as long before becoming members of the Institute (England and Wales) or the Faculty (Scotland) of Actuaries.

To succeed, you need stamina and endurance as well as intelligence. If proposals now

being considered by the institute are put into operation, the whole system will change. New syllabuses are being agreed, which will lead to new-style exams from 1994.

Traditionally, the two professional bodies have provided all the training by correspondence courses. In the past two years, however, others have started to offer training on a commercial basis as happens in the accountancy profession.

Heriot-Watt University, in Edinburgh, offers intensive revision courses for those about to take the exams. Hazel Carr Training, of London, provides longer courses to compete with those offered by the institute's actuarial education service.

John Waugh, deputy director of education at the institute, says: "Demand for actuaries has been affected by the recession. Mergers and cutbacks could reduce vacancies for trainees to about 300 this year and employers are insisting on an upper

second class degree. A mathematics degree is not essential, though: we have actuaries with degrees in all kinds of subjects."

In recent years, he adds, the number of actuarial consultants rose as portable pensions and small insurance companies began using their services more. There is no shortage of recruiters. Life-as-

urance offices and actuarial consultancies are leading employers — more than half of practising actuaries are employed by insurance companies and a third by consultants.

Stockbrokers, the government actuary, education and industry employ the rest. Actuarial practices have been increasing among the leading firms of chartered accountants. Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte and Price Waterhouse recruit a few trainees every year.

Philip Moore, a principal in the actuarial consultancy at Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, is interested in

people who will become consultants. "Will they pass the examinations — that's my first question," he says. "Then I'm interested in their communication skills."

"Our actuarial work grew from our tax practice, which advises clients on employee compensation and pensions. Now we have a staff of more than 100, as well as 26 qualified actuaries. Much of our work is multi-disciplinary."

Standard Life recruits about 15 actuarial trainees a year. Gillian Hamilton, its graduate recruitment officer, says: "We look for a good honours degree in mathematics or statistics and the ambition needed to get through the exams. We work a 35-hour week in the office and the exams require an additional 20 hours of study."

Those who believe the hackneyed joke that actuarial work is for people who find accountancy too exciting need only look at the rewards and career opportunities to think again. Trainees can earn up to £16,000 and earnings of newly qualified actuaries range from £25,000 to £30,000.

'We look for the necessary ambition to pass exams'



LIABILITY valuations, pensions, software systems, profitability studies and the management of a department — these are some of the areas in which Andrew Holtham, an actuary with Provident Mutual, has been involved during his first eight years in the job. "A career as an actuary offered me a mathematically oriented work in a commercial environment, which is what attracted me when I graduated."

he says. "I began in the valuation department, calculating the value of liabilities for bonus purposes and compiling the returns required by the trade and industry department. "At the outset, I did junior clerical work but that gave me contact with what qualified actuaries work on."

"Eighteen months later, I moved to the pensions department." As a student actuary, Mr Holtham had 40 days' study leave a year. To pass the Institute of Actuaries exams took him almost four years. Two years later, he returned to the pensions department as a manager, with 20 staff. "Six months ago," he says, "I moved again — this time to work directly for our chief actuary."

071-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

071-782 7826

University of Sheffield

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The University of Sheffield is one of the country's leading Universities with a high international reputation for academic excellence and innovative research. This new post in the senior management structure will report to the Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer, Professor G.G. Roberts, FRS, and provides an outstanding opportunity for an ambitious accountant.

The principal responsibilities of the post are:

- the establishment and provision of a professional internal audit service, initially under the guidance of KPMG Peat Marwick who have been engaged to advise and co-ordinate the establishment of the service;
- the presentation and development of an audit plan that reflects a critical appreciation of the corporate and strategic objectives of the University;
- the development and management of the internal audit programme, including existing computer systems and those under development in collaboration with other Universities;
- initiation of value for money reviews and any special reviews that might from time to time be required;
- acting as secretary to the Audit committee.

The University, which has an operational budget in excess of £100m pa, is currently in a period of rapid expansion in teaching and research. The development and provision of extensive services to support this expansion will make the post a particularly challenging one, and the successful candidate will need to be highly motivated and have the confidence and stature to work with and be accepted by a wide range of senior professional colleagues.

Salary, expected to be not less than £27,000 pa, will be negotiable.

Further particulars from the Director of Personnel Services, The University, PO Box 584, Fifth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2UH (tel: 0742 768555 ext 4144). Ref: R.1192A.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

KPMG Peat Marwick



CANADA

The Medicine Hat Regional Hospital is a modern, progressive, 446-bed acute and extended care facility located in south eastern Alberta, Canada.

Representatives of the Hospital will be holding interviews for interested applicants in late March 1992 in London, Dublin and Glasgow.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

If you have successfully written the Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA) exam or have graduated from one of the following programmes, we would like to hear from you:

- University of Dublin (in or after June 1987)
- Queens College, Dublin (in or after June 1985)
- University College, Dublin (in or after June 1986)
- Queens College, Glasgow (in or after June 1987)
- North East London Polytechnic (in or after June 1985)

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

As the ideal candidate, you will be a graduate of a degree programme recognised by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists with at least three years of related clinical experience.

The Medicine Hat Regional Hospital offers a competitive compensation and benefits package, a stimulating state-of-the-art environment, and ample opportunity for professional development.

Interested applicants are to apply in confidence by February 28, 1992, quoting reference number: MHRH100, to our local contact: Karen Harvey, Rada Recruitment Communications, 195 Euston Road, London NW1 2BN. Telephone: 071-388 8564.

Director of administration

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council serves a population of over 140,000 in an area combining an interesting mix of attractive countryside and the thriving commercial base of Basingstoke - North Hampshire's leading town.

£38,550 - £47,688
+ car

We place great emphasis on customer care and the provision of high quality services. We have a commitment to Total Quality Management and the achievement of BS5750 certification. With these priorities in mind and the forthcoming challenge of unitary status to be met, we are restructuring and streamlining our organisation.

These initiatives will impact upon all our activities, not least the Administration Department which embraces estates/valuation, legal, committee and general office services. This key Department has already proved its strategic value.

Heading a dedicated team of over 80, you will be a strong, tactical communicator with a natural flair for teamwork. We are also looking for a relevant professional qualification, ten years' post qualification experience, some of which has been gained in local government, including at least five at senior management level. Familiarity with TQM initiatives would be useful.

This is a major professional challenge in which you will make a significant contribution to our successful corporate management and to your own career development. The post carries an attractive package which includes medical insurance, contract hire car, relocation and mortgage assistance.

Applications, in your own style, should be received by 26th February 1992. For a detailed job description and information pack, please telephone our 24 hour answering service on Basingstoke (0256) 479443 or contact Jeff Moss, Head of Personnel Services, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 2AJ. Tel: 0256 844844 ext 4435.

Interviews will be held on 19th and 20th March.

BASINGSTOKE & DEANE
BOROUGH COUNCIL



THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

BARBER CHAIR OF JURISPRUDENCE

Applications are invited for this Chair, which falls vacant at the end of this academic year following the retirement of Professor Geoffrey Hand.

The Chair is one of six professorial posts in the Faculty of Law.

The successful candidate will be expected to play a full part in the life of the Faculty, and to provide academic leadership within the area of his or her research and teaching interests.

Candidates with an interest in Public Law (e.g. Constitutional Law or Administrative Law of the United Kingdom) will be preferred.

Further particulars may be obtained from:

Mr. P.J.F. Scott, Director of Staffing Services, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT. Telephone: 021-414 3842.

Closing date for applications 13 March 1992.

The University is an equal opportunities employer.

BARKING COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Senior Management Accountant

£22,248-£26,601 inc

The Education Reform Act and the prospect of corporate status in 1993 are generating new challenges and opportunities for the College, particularly in the area of financial resource management. The College Governors have decided to create the post of Senior Management Accountant to advise and give professional support to them and the Senior Management Team in the exercise of their financial responsibilities in an increasingly market-oriented environment.

The Governors are seeking to appoint a qualified accountant with at least 2-3 years' successful post-qualification experience in either a commercial or public sector environment. Sound management skills, experience in the development and use of computerised financial information systems and the confidence to advise senior personnel in developing new opportunities/systems are also essential. Good interpersonal and supervisory skills together with the ability to lead by example, are essential.

If you are interested in working in a rapidly changing climate and can offer these qualities and more, apply for further details and application form to: Personnel Section, Barking College of Technology, Dagenham Road, Romford RM7 0UL. Closing date: 21 February 1992.

BARKING & DAGENHAM
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DIRECTOR OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOSPITAL ADVISORY SERVICE

The Minister of Health and Social Services proposes to appoint a Director of the Northern Ireland Hospital Advisory Service (NIHAS) to succeed Dr W H Moffatt, who retired on 31 December 1991.

The Service is an independent body which reports to the Minister through the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services on continuing care in hospital for elderly people and for people with a mental handicap or mental illness. Since its formation in 1984, it has carried out over 30 visits to hospitals in Northern Ireland. The structure and remit of the Service are to be changed and developed. The new Director will carry out a series of commissions relating to particular client groups. He/she will work in collaboration with appropriate professional and research bodies and experts in the field to develop guidelines for assessing standards of continuing care. He/she will co-ordinate, participate in and report on a series of visits to appropriate facilities, and will produce a composite report to the Minister on standards of continuing care.

This is a key appointment. The Director will need to have the experience, vision and drive to be able to develop the new Service along the lines envisaged by the Minister and to command the respect of all the professional staff and managers with whom he/she will be required to work. The appointment will be for a period of three years. The salary, terms and conditions of service are negotiable and will reflect the distinction of this post. Applications from people who wish to work on a part-time basis will be considered. If circumstances require it, arrangements may be made to second the successful candidate from current employment.

Further details, including information on how applications may be made, may be obtained from: Ms Bessie Murray, Personnel Department, Central Services Agency, 25 Adelaide Street, BELFAST, BT2 6PH. Tel: 091 272 6911. The closing date for applications will be 4.00 pm on Friday 14th March 1992. An Equal Opportunity Employer

St. Dunstan's College
HMC Day School for 790 boys
(aged 7-18)

Required for September 1992

Modern Linguist to teach either French or French and Spanish to A Level.

Full involvement in pastoral responsibilities and extra-curricular activities is expected. Own generous salary scale with additional responsibility allowance, dependent upon qualifications and experience. Full details available from the Headmaster, St. Dunstan's College, 100, St. Dunstan's Road, Colchester, Essex CO1 1JH. Tel: 0206 690 1224. Applications with CV and passing 2 references by Friday, 6th March.

LEGAL

PARLIAMENTARY & LEGAL OFFICER

The National Consumer Council promotes and protects the interests of consumers, not just in the high street, but in health, holidays and housing. We do this by sound research and skilful lobbying.

We are looking for someone energetic to lead our legal and parliamentary officers. In the current political climate this is a demanding and challenging job.

You will:

- manage and develop our work in Parliament;
- advise on political and parliamentary strategy;
- run the Council's legal office;
- the job calls for:
- experience and/or knowledge of parliament;
- tact and political sensitivity;
- a legal qualification and good legal judgement;
- first class communication skills;
- the ability to represent Council policy at the highest levels;
- the ability to combine leadership with teamwork.

Salary approx £20,000 per annum

For further information and application form contact:

Paul Murray
National Consumer Council
28 Grosvenor Gardens,
London SW1W 0EH
Tel: 071-739 3469

Closing date for completed application forms is Thursday 27 February. Interviews are being held on Jan 11 and 12 March.



BBC 1

- 6.00 Cee-fax (61898)
6.30 Breakfast News (71562017)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (4241904). 5.50 Hot Chefs. Another Italian recipe from Antony Worrall Thompson (5249782)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (6006695) 10.05 Playdays. For the very young (7156817) 10.25 Pingu. Animated adventures of a clumsy penguin (6007872) 10.35 No Kidding. Family quiz game show hosted by Mike Smith with Kate Copstick (5570503)
11.00 News, regional news and weather (7182188) 11.05 Wildlife Gems. Fergus Keeling introduces film of a leopard filled with jellyfish and a testing assault course for a squirrel (7473227)
11.30 People Today presented by Milos Forman and Adrian Mills. Among the guests is Marie Christine Ridgeway, wife of explorer John, who has written a book *No Place For a Woman* (3156324). With News, regional news and weather at 12.00
12.20 Pebble Mill. Music and chat introduced by Judi Sifers. Among the guests is the pop group Take That (s) (3065188) 12.55 Regional News and weather (90155430)
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (72614) 1.30 Neighbours. (Cee-fax) (s) (6227701)
1.50 Olympics '92. Helen Rodman introduces coverage of both runs of the men's combined slalom plus action from the 7.5m women's bathlon, the women's luge, the Nordic combined events and ice hockey (3103703)
3.50 Joshua Jones. Animated series (7754140) 4.00 The New York Bear Show. Cartoon (r) (9048072) 4.10 Jackanory. Helena Bonham-Carter with episode two of the five-part adaptation of Philipa Pearce's *The Way to Sarin Shore* (r) (5456333) 4.25 Fantastic Max. Adventures of a bionic baby (5034879) 4.35 The Really Wild Roadshow. Includes a visit to Bridgwater Wildlife Park, near Nantwich, Cheshire, and Sue Dawson building an osprey nest in Scotland. (Cee-fax) (s) (2413614)
5.00 Newsround (7729492) 5.10 Grange Hill. Children's school drama series (2221227)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Cee-fax) (s) (973411). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Cee-fax) Weather (140)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (492) Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Holiday. This week Anna Rice and David Jessel report from the same Austrian Alpine resort - one in the winter, the other in summer; and Julia Butt goes hot air ballooning in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park. (Cee-fax) (s) (4091)
7.30 EastEnders. (Cee-fax) (504)
8.00 The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin. David Dobbs's classic comedy starring Leonard Rossiter. This week the once successful community is under attack from within and from the outside. Can Reggie stop the rot? (r). (Cee-fax) (1351)



Acting team captain: football player John Barnes (8.30pm)

- 8.30 A Question of Sport. John Barnes, the Liverpool and England footballer, takes over as one of the captains in the absence of Ian Botham. He and Bill Beaumont are joined by David Sole, Lucinda Greer, Neil Wadsworth and Neil Rendell. The question-master is David Coles. (Cee-fax) (s) (5646)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Cee-fax) Regional news and weather (6430)
9.30 Spender. The unorthodox George detective is a witness to a vicious ram-ran in which an elderly man is brutally beaten, but doesn't intervene. Last in the series starring Jimmy Nail. (Cee-fax) (s) (205782)
10.25 Spiritnight Special. Includes the free programme of the pairs figure skating competition and ice hockey in the Winter Olympics and FA Cup football highlights (6650324)
11.55 Weather (263343). Ends at 12.00
2.00am The Way Ahead. Murray explains April's new benefits for disabled people (r) (3005744). Ends at 2.15

BBC 2

- 8.45 Open University: Managing Schools - Penneet Comprehensive (9491904). Ends at 9.10
9.00 Breakfast News (2538985)
9.15 Westminster. A summary of business from both Houses (560169) 9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather (1058888) followed by You and Me. For the very young (r) (74133614) 2.15 Bitten By The Bug. Professor Erik Holt continues his exploration of the insect world with a look at *counting rituals* (74113650) 2.30 See Hear Magazine series for the hearing impaired (r) (663)
3.00 News and weather (5577053) followed by Westminster Live introduced by Vivian White (2463530) 3.50 News, regional news and weather (7275282)
4.00 Catchword. Paul Cole with another round of the game for wordsmiths (683)
4.30 Wildlife Gems. Film of cliff-edge life, a fight on a cliff face and gorillas in a mist. Presented by Fergus Keeling (r) (817)
5.00 Second Sight. Nancy Holtroyd who in 1966 at the age of 25 became assistant governor of Manchester's Salford women's prison and is now head of the board of governors at Rosie Secure School near Montreal, talks about her views on criminality (r) (5168)
5.30 Old Garden. New Gardener. Geoff Hamilton and Gay Search tackle garden boundaries and demonstrate how trellis work can bring about an eye-pleasing transformation in lacklustre fencing (r). (Cee-fax) (168) Wales: Deutsch Direkt 5.55 Advice Shop Extra
6.00 Olympics Today introduced by Desmond Lugg. Highlights of the combined slalom events, the women's 7.5m bathlon, the women's luge and the Nordic combined event. Plus a look back to tonight's pairs figure skating free programme (11150685)
7.45 Assignment: The New Holy Roman Empire. Clerks Frerick reports from the Vatican and Siberia on the Pope's attempts to strengthen Roman Catholicism in eastern Europe following the fall of communism (66817)
8.30 Food and Drink. Includes a report on the dangers of microwave liquids; and a recipe for French onion soup with caramelised onions (s) (7188)
9.00 Quantum Leap. Science fiction series starring Scott Bakula as a time-travelled scientist. In this episode he materialises in September 1973 as an FBI agent assigned to protect an abstract young woman whose life is threatened by gangsters. (Cee-fax) (s) (453665)

Leading the natives up the jungle path: Texan Dr Dan (9.50pm)

- 9.50 40 Minutes: Cowboys in the South Pacific. CHOICE: For some years a Texan osteopath who rejoices in the name of Dr Danforth Arte Bookout has led expeditions to an island in the south Pacific to find the remains of a boy who went missing in action in 1943. Why Dr Dan should have this obsession is unexplained but luckily it is not central to the story. The point of the film is that everyone is fooling everyone else. The natives know that a visit from Dr Dan and his team means jobs and a boost to the local cash economy. So they are not overkeen to find the crashed plane in case this only delays up. There is the suggestion that Dr Dan may not be the pillar of integrity that he appears and doubts are cast, too, on a Crocodile Dundee character who surfaces conveniently from the jungle and goes straight to a wrecked aircraft. At the end of this inconsequential film, many viewers may ask themselves whether they care one way or the other. (Cee-fax) (479430)
10.30 Newsnight introduced by Jeremy Paxman (427362)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (104168)
11.55 Weather (263365)
12.00 Open University: Elements Organised - the Periodic Table. Ends at 12.30am

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes which allow you to instantly programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details on VideoPlus+ on BBC 1 and 2, call 0900 400 000. VideoPlus+ is available on all VideoPlus+ VHS tapes. Full details on VideoPlus+ are available on the VideoPlus+ VHS tapes. VideoPlus+ is available on all VideoPlus+ VHS tapes. VideoPlus+ is available on all VideoPlus+ VHS tapes.

ITV

- 8.00 TV-am (9547985)
8.25 Keynotes (1361527) 8.55 Thames News (4300324)
10.00 The Time... The Place... (571863)
10.40 This Morning. Family magazine series (3013411)
12.10 Treasure Box. Early learning series (2728053)
12.30 News. (Cee-fax) Weather (6974411) 1.10 Thames News (53724814)
1.20 Home and Away. (Cee-fax) (97830343) 1.50 A Country Practice (s) (5241237)
2.20 VIVE la Difference. Oxford university student Rebecca Phillips travels to Germany to live the life of Heidelberg student Claudia Kraus (2242705) 2.50 Families (40382)
3.15 ITN News headlines (987430) 3.20 Thames News headlines (9884343) 3.25 The Young Doctors (8380782)
3.55 Joelle Smith (7758779) 4.05 Dennis's Duck Tales (8837868) 4.30 Cartoon (r) (3050850) 4.40 Press Gang. (Cee-fax) (s) (1155469)
5.10 Blockbusters (5535343)
5.40 News. (Cee-fax) Weather (151362)
5.55 Thames Help presented by Jackie Sprockley (r) (474091)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Cee-fax) (508)
6.30 Thames News (Cee-fax) (168)
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in the Yorkshire Dales. (Cee-fax) (4459)
7.30 In Time of War. The third of six documentaries about the Falklands campaign (512)
8.00 The Bill: Chicksen (Cee-fax) (2878)
8.30 The Upper Hand. Band sitcom (4814)
9.00 Murder Squad. "Fly-on-the-wall" documentaries following Scotland Yard murder investigations (8688)

In therapy: Muhiye and Hardcastle with Slatery (9.30pm)

- 9.30 That's Love. CHOICE: For a comedy *That's Love* is notably short on laughs, at least those likely to split sides or draw tears. Perhaps the marital troubles of Donald and Patsy (Jimmy Muhiye and Diane Hardcastle) are too serious to make jokes about. Or perhaps they have a certain sensibility, stemming from his inability to resist a fling with another woman. Tony Slatery joins the cast for this latest episode, playing a pig-tailed marriage therapist. He looks suspiciously like a plot device, a means of providing Patsy with the chance to get her head back. Until she does *That's Love* will be an echo of the Victorian double standard by which men were allowed to be randy and women had to put up with it. (Cee-fax) (27081)
10.00 News at Ten. (Cee-fax) Weather (96553) 10.30 Thames News (50365)
10.40 Viewpoint '92: My Life in Whose Hands? CHOICE: The Observer journalist Geoffrey Lean was setting down to write a story when he felt a sharp pain in his stomach. He was admitted to hospital for what should have been a simple operation. He woke up three weeks later totally paralysed and unable to speak. In all, he was in hospital for four months. As he recovered the House of Commons was debating the government's marketised National Health Service reforms. Lean ties the two strands together, asking whether if his case had been decided on a cost-benefit basis he would be alive to tell the story. He tends to be a little too much of a moralist in his analysis. Another consultant says the reforms are the best thing that has happened to the NHS since 1948. Searching but fair-minded, Lean also interviews William Waldegrave, the health secretary. (Cee-fax) (256701)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Australian prison drama series (445782)
12.30am Video View presented by Mariella Frostrup (83744)
12.30am The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (104168)
1.40 The Equalizer (2471367) 2.30am News (40312)
3.30 60 Minutes. Award-winning American news magazine (50607)
4.30 Entertainment UK. A what's on guide (86638)
5.30 ITN Morning News (31567). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Channel 4 Daily (9545827)
9.25 Schools (9479180)
12.00 The Entertainment Programme presented by Nicholas Owen (93546)
12.30 Business Daily. Susannah Simons with news from the world's business centres (12169)
1.00 Sesame Street. Entertaining early-learning series (73004)
2.00 Film: Captain Boycott (1947, b/w) starring Cecil Parker, Stewart Granger and Kathleen Ryan. Historical melodrama about Irish tenant farmers who offer passive resistance to their despotic British landlords. Directed by Frank Launder (412324)
3.45 Third Wave with Manda Nicholson: Refreshing the Spirit. As people grow older the need to find a spiritual anchor can become increasingly important. In today's programme Manda Nicholson focuses on some alternative faiths such as Buddhism and spiritual healing. (Teletext) (5303985)
4.30 Countdown. Another round of the words and numbers game, hosted by Richard Whitley (s) (855)
5.00 It's A Dog's Life. Berlin on the canine world. This week Veronica Charlwood and Mike Fidler investigate the dog bastions who are trained to offer elaborate styling and trimming for men's best friend (r) (4237)



Arts express: Sarah Scott and Ray Harrison Graham (5.30pm)

- 5.30 D'Art. The first of a new series of eight programmes in which deaf children use sign language to explore the skills and fun of the performing arts. Today deaf actor John Wilson gives an acting workshop. Presented by Sarah Scott and Ray Harrison Graham (237)
6.00 My Two Dads. Lame American comedy about two bachelors who inherit a daughter (850)
6.30 Gamesmaster. Popular series devoted to video games, presented by Dominik Diamond. In this edition Djs Pat Sharp and Mick Brown try their hand at some acrobatic ski jumping (430)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (519514)
7.30 Countdown (25504)
8.00 Class Action. The third of a six-part series about Britain's education system. Colin Welland, an Oscar-winning screenwriter and former teacher, attacks the government's promotion of academic league tables for schools (3121)
8.30 Nature Watch: The Perfect Family Dog. Erik Zimen expands on his theory that every single dog species is descended from a wolf (2258)
9.00 Without Walls: Fin de Siècle - The Sun Has Risen. As Japan looks set to become the world's leading economic power, what will this mean for the rest of the industrial nations? (5053)
10.00 Film: Single Bars, Single Women (1994) starring Tony Danza and Paul Michael Glaser. A made-for-TV television drama set in a town's singles bar that doubles as a disco where lonely people come to make contact. Directed by Harry Winar (58850)
11.45 Empty Nest. American comedy series starring Richard Mulligan as a widower living in Golden Girls country (35837)
12.15am Return to the Dunes. Dave Fanning introduces highlights of music first seen on Friday at the Dome. Among those appearing tonight are Larry Kravitz, Alison Moyet and the Blue Aeroplanes (412018). Ends at 1.00

ITV VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA
As London except: 8.25-7.00 Anglia News (94491) 7.30-8.00 Food Guide (512)
BORDER
As London except: 3.25-3.55pm Sons and Daughters (600782) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (553430) 6.00-6.30pm News (553430) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (188) 7.30-8.00 The Early Evening Challenge (512) 11.40 Film: The Second Step (512) 1.30pm News (553430) 2.30 Video View (543744) 3.25-3.55 News (553430) 4.15 Night Beat (553430) 5.15-5.30 Job (512)
CENTRAL
As London except: 2.50pm-3.15 The Young Doctors (403459) 3.25-3.55 Film: The Lord's Prayer (512) 4.15-4.40 News (553430) 4.45-5.15pm News (553430) 5.15-5.40pm News (553430) 5.45-6.15pm News (553430) 6.15-6.40pm News (553430) 6.45-7.15pm News (553430) 7.15-7.40pm News (553430) 7.45-8.15pm News (553430) 8.15-8.40pm News (553430) 8.45-9.15pm News (553430) 9.15-9.40pm News (553430) 9.45-10.15pm News (553430) 10.15-10.40pm News (553430) 10.45-11.15pm News (553430) 11.15-11.40pm News (553430) 11.45-12.15pm News (553430) 12.15-12.40pm News (553430) 12.45-1.15am News (553430) 1.15-1.40am News (553430) 1.45-2.15am News (553430) 2.15-2.40am News (553430) 2.45-3.15am News (553430) 3.15-3.40am News (553430) 3.45-4.15am News (553430) 4.15-4.40am News (553430) 4.45-5.15am News (553430) 5.15-5.40am News (553430) 5.45-6.15am News (553430) 6.15-6.40am News (553430) 6.45-7.15am News (553430) 7.15-7.40am News (553430) 7.45-8.15am News (553430) 8.15-8.40am News (553430) 8.45-9.15am News (553430) 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